

**WORLD**

NATO rejects claim it's positioning forces near Belarus borders  
**Page 12**

**FACES**

Elizabeth Debicki cast as Princess Diana in final 2 seasons of 'The Crown'  
**Page 14**

**NBA**

Ten things to know as 2020 playoffs begin  
**Back page**



**Afghans halt prisoner release, delaying talks with Taliban** » **Page 3**

# STARS AND STRIPES.®

*stripes.com*

Volume 79, No. 87 ©SS 2020

TUESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2020

平成32年4月5日 第三種郵便物認可 日刊(土日除く)  
 発行所 星条旗新聞社 〒106-0032 東京都港区六本木7丁目23番17号 定価 ¥50

50¢/Free to Deployed Areas

**VIRUS OUTBREAK**

## A change in curriculum

Masks in some classrooms, no tag at recess: DODEA schools ready for a very different learning experience

**Page 5**



DONAVAN K. PATURO/U.S. Navy

Petty Officer 1st Class Tyler Reese moves desks in an effort to safely facilitate in-person learning for the upcoming school year at Naples Middle High School, Naples, on Aug. 10.

## Iraqi prime minister says country still needs US help

By QASSIM ABDUL-ZAHRA  
 Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Iraq's prime minister said Monday ahead of a much anticipated trip to Washington that his country still needs U.S. assistance to counter the threat posed by Islamic State and that his administration is committed to introducing security sector reforms as rogue militia groups stage near-daily attacks against the seat of his government.

"In the end, we will still need cooperation and assistance at levels that might require direct and military support, and support on the ground," Mustafa al-Kadhimi said, but the levels depend on the changing nature of the threats posed by terrorist groups.

Al-Kadhimi is slated to meet with President Donald Trump in Washington this week to conclude a strategic dialogue launched in June to reconfigure U.S.-Iraq ties.

In an exclusive interview Monday with The

Associated Press, he said Iraqi forces are capable of fighting ISIS without the need for foreign combat troops on the ground. But, he said, the next stage of cooperation with the U.S. would require continued training and weapons support.

Sworn in as premier in May in the wake of historic mass anti-government protests, al-Kadhimi's administration inherited a myriad of crises. State coffers in the crude-

**SEE HELP ON PAGE 3**

**RELATED**

US-led site handover to Iraq proceeds after attacks by suspected Iran-allied fighters

**Page 3**

# BUSINESS/WEATHER

## Popular German sauce to change racist name

Associated Press

BERLIN — One of Germany's best-known food companies said it will rename a popular spicy dressing because of the racist connotations of its name.

Food company Knorr will change the name of its "Zigeuner-sauce," or "gypsy sauce" to "Paprika Sauce Hungarian Style," the German weekly Bild am Sonntag reported Sunday.

"Since 'gypsy sauce' can be interpreted in a negative way, we

have decided to give our Knorr sauce a new name," said Unilever, the international consumer goods group that owns Knorr. Unilever could not independently be reached for comment on Sunday.

The popular spicy sauce, a staple in many German households, will within a few weeks show up with the new name in supermarkets across the country, Bild am Sonntag reported.

Civil rights groups have for years called for the renaming of the brand, but in 2013, the compa-

ny rejected the demand, the German news agency dpa reported.

The renaming of the brand follows recent international debates over racism, especially in the United States, where big national companies have also renamed traditional brands in response to concerns about racial stereotyping.

"Zigeuner" is a derogative German expression for the Roma and Sinti minority groups who have lived in many European countries for centuries.

### EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (Aug. 18)	\$1.16
Dollar buys (Aug. 18)	40.8225
British pound (Aug. 18)	\$1.28
Japanese yen (Aug. 18)	104.00
South Korean won (Aug. 18)	1,156.00
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3771
British pound	\$1.1303
Canada (Dollar)	1.3211
China (Yuan)	6.9362
Denmark (Krone)	6.7202
Egypt (Pound)	15.9226
Hong Kong (Dollar)	\$1.1875/0.8421
Hungary (Forint)	77.504
Israel (Shekel)	293.86
Japan (Yen)	106.16
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.3057
Norway (Krone)	8.8478
Poland (Zloty)	48.64
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.70
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3885
South Korea (Won)	1,184.57

Switzerland (Franc)	0.9062
Thailand (Baht)	31.18
Turkey (Lira)	7.3976

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

### INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	3.25
Discount rate	0.25
Federal funds market rate	0.09
3-month bill	0.10
30-year bond	1.42

### WEATHER OUTLOOK

#### TUESDAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST



#### TUESDAY IN EUROPE



#### WEDNESDAY IN THE PACIFIC



The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

### TODAY IN STRIPES

American Roundup ..... 11  
Classified ..... 13  
Comics ..... 15  
Crossword ..... 15  
Faces ..... 14  
Opinion ..... 16-17  
Sports ..... 18-24

### STARS AND STRIPES

However you read us,  
wherever you need us.

Mobile • Online • Print

#### EUROPE

KRISTI KIMMEL

CustomerService@stripes.com

+49 (0) 0631.3615.9111  
DSN: 314.583.9111

#### MIDDLE EAST

KRISTI KIMMEL

CustomerService@stripes.com

+49 (0) 0631.3615.9111  
DSN: 314.583.9111

#### PACIFIC

ICHIRO  
KATAYANAGI

PacificAdvertising@stripes.com

ADVERTISING

CML +81 (42) 552.2511 ext. 77313  
DSN: 227.7313

## PCSing? STARS AND STRIPES RELOCATION GUIDE

Every Friday in the European and Pacific editions  
of Stars and Stripes AND online daily at  
[www.stripes.com/relo](http://www.stripes.com/relo)



## WAR ON TERRORISM

## Afghans halt prisoner release, talks delayed

By RAHIM FAIEZ  
AND KATHY GANNON  
Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — The Afghan government said Monday it would not release the last 400 Taliban prisoners it is holding until the insurgents free more captured soldiers, defying a traditional council held last week and further delaying intra-Afghan talks sought by the United States.

The talks, which were laid out in a peace deal signed between the United States and the Taliban in February, were expected to begin on Thursday but are now postponed indefinitely.

The ruling by the traditional council, or jirga, which called for the immediate release of the Taliban prisoners, had raised hopes of a breakthrough in the process.

The U.S.-Taliban peace deal called on the Taliban to free 1,000 government and military personnel and for the government to free 5,000 Taliban prisoners. The prisoner releases were to be a goodwill gesture ahead of intra-Afghan negotiations aimed at devising a postwar roadmap.

"We are going to release them. That's not an issue. But it has to be two-way," government spokesman Sediq Sediqi told The Associated Press. "If we take this bold step, releasing all these guys, all these bad



RAHIMAT GUL/AP

**Afghan presidential spokesman Sediq Sediqi gives an interview to The Associated Press in Kabul, Afghanistan, on Monday.**

people, why are the Taliban not releasing our captives, which is a very small number?"

Suhail Shaheen, the Taliban's political spokesman, said the group had fulfilled its obligations and was not aware of any other

security personnel in its custody who were to be released.

"We have released 1,000 prisoners that we had promised to release," Shaheen said. The Taliban have said they are ready to open talks with the government within one week of the release of the last Taliban prisoners.

The deal with the Taliban is aimed at ending the U.S. war in Afghanistan that began shortly after the Sept. 11 attacks. U.S. troops have already begun leaving, and by November, fewer than 5,000 troops are expected to still be in the country. That's down from nearly 13,000 when the agreement was signed Feb. 29.

Under the agreement, the withdrawal of U.S. troops does not hinge on the success of intra-Afghan talks but on commitments made by the Taliban to combat terrorist groups and ensure Afghanistan is not used as a staging ground for attacks on the U.S. and its allies.

Since signing the agreement, the Taliban have held to a promise not to attack U.S. and NATO troops, but have carried out regular attacks on Afghan security forces.

The government wants an immediate cease-fire, while the Taliban have said the terms should be agreed in the negotiations.

Sediqi said Australia and France have also objected to releasing some of the last Taliban prisoners because they were involved in attacks on their forces. He said the government wants to address their concerns.

But President Ashraf Ghani set a precedent when he reached a peace deal with U.S.-declared terrorist Gulbuddin Hekmatyar in 2016. Hekmatyar's group was blamed for an attack on a supermarket in the capital that killed civilians as well as an attack in 2014 that killed two U.S. contractors. The French also argued against his delisting as a terrorist because of an attack his group staged against French forces in Afghanistan in 2008 that killed 10 French soldiers.

Both the Taliban and the government have accused each other of creating hurdles in the peace process.

Sediqi said the government had proven its goodwill by releasing 5,000 Taliban and that it never committed to releasing a particular list of insurgents.

"I think it's time for the Taliban to realize that there will be no concession anymore," said Sediqi. "Whatever we have done so far as the Afghan government and the peace process, that should be enough for the Taliban to come to the negotiation table."

## Hours after rocket strike, US hands site over to Iraqis

By CHAD GARLAND  
Stars and Stripes

The U.S.-led coalition in Iraq transferred about 50 ammunition storage bunkers and facilities to Iraqi forces at Camp Taji, part of a continuing force consolidation as the Islamic State fight wanes and conflict with Iran-backed fighters ramps up.

The handover Sunday was long-scheduled, officials said, but it came hours after two small rockets struck near the base Saturday night, the latest attack targeting bases where coalition forces are housed, which the U.S. has blamed on Iranian proxy groups.

The rocket strike at the base north of Baghdad did not impact near coalition forces, Army Col. Myles B. Caggins III, a spokesman for the coalition, said on Twitter on Saturday.

Also last week, three rockets fell on Balad Air Base, the Iraqi government said Thursday, then on Friday three more fell on Baghdad's international airport, it said. On Sunday, one landed inside Baghdad's Green Zone, where diplomatic and military mission headquarters are based. None of the attacks resulted in significant damage, the Iraqi government said on Twitter.

The strikes all came after the U.S. seized more than 1 million barrels of Iranian oil from four tankers bound for Venezuela last

week.

They also come ahead of expected U.S.-Iraq talks, which Central Command boss Gen. Frank McKenzie said would likely involve the long-term presence of American and allied troops.

"I think that is a grave concern to the Iraqis because that works against what they want, which is for Iraq to be pretty directly under their control and for us to be out of the theater," the Marine general said in an online panel hosted by the U.S. Institute of Peace on Wednesday.

McKenzie acknowledged that the rocket attacks have forced the coalition to pull back from the ISIS fight somewhat and divert resources to self-protection. He also expected Iran to launch a fresh "response" after failing to expel the U.S. from Iraq earlier this year.

"I do not know what the nature of that response will be, but we will certainly be ready for it, should it occur," he said.

U.S.-Iran tensions have risen steadily over the past two years, as President Donald Trump's administration has tried to pressure Tehran into renegotiating an Obama-era nuclear treaty that Trump withdrew the U.S. from.

Sporadic rocket attacks have become commonplace since last fall, and in January a U.S. drone strike killed a top Iranian general in Baghdad, leading Tehran to re-



Twitter

**The U.S.-backed anti-Islamic State coalition handed over an ammunition storage site at Camp Taji to the Iraqi security forces, Sunday. The coalition has delivered \$11 million worth of ammunition to the Iraqis this year, they said in a statement.**

spond with a barrage of ballistic missiles that hit U.S.-occupied bases in Iraq and left more than 100 American troops with traumatic brain injuries.

Meanwhile, the coalition has removed forces from smaller Iraqi bases, a long-planned effort which officials have said was sped up by the increased threat from Iran-backed militias.

Two American troops and a British soldier were killed at Taji in March, but many of the coalition troops that were once at the base to train Iraqi forces have since gone elsewhere in Iraq or

been sent home. There remains a small presence of troops who coordinate logistics and security operations, the coalition said.

Some 5,200 American troops remain in Iraq, but as the government forces take on more responsibility for fighting ISIS, the number of U.S. and coalition troops is expected to shrink, McKenzie said last week.

"We don't want to maintain a huge number of soldiers forever in Iraq," McKenzie said.

garland.chad@stripes.com  
Twitter: @chadgarland

## Help: Many question PM's limitations as leader in Iraq

FROM FRONT PAGE

dependent country were slashed following a severe drop in oil prices, adding to the woes of an economy already struggling with the aftershocks of the global coronavirus pandemic.

Despite this, his administration set a lofty agenda including economic reform, battling corruption, avenging protesters and bringing arms under the authority of the state.

The latter has pitted his government against rogue Iran-backed militia groups.

The recent assassination of prominent Iraqi commentator Hisham al-Hashimi and the kidnapping of German art curator Hella Mewis have lead many to question the limits of his leadership.

But al-Kadhimi said these were perpetrated by those with an interest in profiting from chaos.

"These criminal acts are the result of many years of conflict," he said, blaming the poor policies and improper management of his predecessors which has undermined the authority of the state.

"We are committed to reforming the security establishment and enhancing its ability to deal with these kinds of challenges and holding accountable those who fail to protect civilians and put an end to these outlawed groups," he said.



## WAR/MILITARY

## Coalition denies airstrike on Syrian troops

By CHAD GARLAND  
Stars and Stripes

A convoy of U.S.-led coalition and partner forces returned fire after coming under attack near a Syrian military checkpoint in the country's northeast, the alliance said, but it denied reports of an airstrike.

A regime anti-Islamic State patrol, which included Syrian Democratic Forces, had received "safe passage from pro-regime forces" before coming under small-arms fire near the checkpoint, which was near Tal al-Zahab village in northeastern Hasakeh province, the coalition said in a statement. "Coalition troops returned fire in self-defense," the statement said. "The coalition did not conduct an airstrike. No coalition casualties occurred."

See a video of the altercation involving a U.S. convoy at [starsandstripes.com/go/convoy](https://starsandstripes.com/go/convoy)



Citing local sources, the London-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said earlier that Syrian regime forces blocked a U.S. military column at the checkpoint south of Qamishli, leading to an "altercation between both sides."

Video posted on Twitter showed an apparent exchange of small-arms fire and grenades. At least one helicopter was visible flying nearby in the video, posted by journalist Mohammad Hassan.

One soldier was killed and two were injured in the incident, the state-owned Syrian Arab News Agency reported, citing an unnamed Syrian military source

who said the fighting began around 9:45 a.m. when a U.S. patrol tried to enter the area. "Warplanes" struck about 30 minutes later, causing the casualties, the source was reported as saying.

U.S. forces routinely patrol the area, where several hundred Americans, mostly special operations troops, are deployed to small bases to train, advise and assist Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces fighting Islamic State.

Syrian military forces loyal to President Bashar Assad, known as the Syrian Arab Army, also patrol the area along with their Russian backers in the ongoing civil war that began in 2011.

U.S. forces have near daily contact with Russian forces there, officials have said, though they have said tensions are usually

settled nonviolently.

Videos posted online in recent months have shown instances of one side's convoys escorting the others, or vehicles from Russian and American convoys vying for position on roadways. In one instance last February, American troops returned fire after Assad regime loyalists attacked near Qamishli, resulting in one Syrian death.

Last month, Brett McGurk, the former U.S. special envoy to the anti-ISIL coalition, posted a video to Twitter showing Russian vehicles converging on a U.S. patrol. Such confrontations occur daily since the U.S. withdrew in October from territory near Syria's border with Turkey ahead of a Turkish incursion, McGurk said. He called on President Donald

Trump to "pick up the phone and tell Putin to stop harassing our troops."

U.S. military officials have declined to say how many U.S. troops are in Syria to assist in the anti-ISIL fight, but earlier this year there were a few hundred at a remote garrison in southeast Syria and several hundred more at bases in the northeastern provinces of Hasakeh and Deir al-Zor.

Some 5,200 U.S. troops remain in Iraq to assist government forces.

The convoy returned to its base after the firefight with apparent pro-Assad forces Monday, the coalition said. The incident is under investigation.

garland.chad@starsandstripes.com  
Twitter: @chadgarland

## Tokyo virus cases dip as nearby US base has 12 new infections

By CAITLIN DOORNBOS,  
MATTHEW M. BURKE  
AND AYA ICHIHASHI  
Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — New coronavirus cases in Japan's capital city fell to 161 on Monday, the first working day after a four-day holiday called Obon, while the premier U.S. naval base in Japan reported a dozen infections.

Tokyo reported 161 new cases, according to public broadcaster NHK. It's the third day below 200 cases since Aug. 11, said the report, which cited city officials.

The daily record so far is 472 on Aug. 1, according to the Tokyo Metropolitan Government.

Previously, the city reported dips in post-holiday case numbers, only to see them rise again later in the week as more tests were administered. The seven-day moving average of new cases in the city is trending downward, however, according to metro government data.

Yokosuka Naval Base, home of the U.S. 7th Fleet, southwest of central Tokyo, on Monday announced 12 new infections, its largest increase since July 21, when it started reporting case numbers.

One of those patients, a new arrival to Japan, showed symptoms of COVID-19, the respiratory illness caused by the coronavirus, while in mandatory isolation, according to a post on the base Facebook page. The remaining 11 had close contact with someone previously infected and were also moved into quarantine.

The base has 35 active cases, according to the post.

On Aug. 10, Yokosuka increased its risk level for further spread of the virus to substantial — Health

Protection Condition-Charlie, in military terms — following a burst of six new cases.

The neighboring city of Yokosuka reported 14 infections over the weekend, according to the city's website.

Yokota Air Base, headquarters of U.S. Forces Japan in western Tokyo, reported one new case Monday — a person who tested positive in quarantine Friday after traveling abroad.

On Okinawa, the Marine Corps on Monday reported no new cases after announcing four on Saturday and Sunday.

More than 200 people infected in cluster outbreaks at two Okinawa Marine bases have been cleared of the virus, a Marine Corps Installation Pacific spokesman said via email Monday.

Those clusters emerged at Marine Corps Air Station Futenma and Camp Hansen following the July 14th weekend. The outbreak infected 114 people at MCAS Futenma and 162 at Hansen. "All cases from the Futenma cluster have been cleared," Maj. Ken Kunze wrote in the email. "The cases from the original Hansen cluster have also all recovered."

He said the Marines' most recent 10 cases were discovered by testing people before they exited the isolation period required of all new arrivals.

In early August, Kunze said that most cases associated with the clusters at MCAS Futenma and Hansen began with new arrivals to Okinawa, prior to the start of mandatory exit testing. After the outbreaks began, people in quarantine had to test positive before being released.

"Our enhanced protective measures will remain in place to



AKIYUKI ISHIKAWA/Stars and Stripes

Pedestrians wear face coverings to help guard against the coronavirus in the Omotesando district of central Tokyo, on Friday.

**‘We don’t anticipate easing restrictions until cases off base begin to trend downward.’**

Maj. Ken Kunze  
U.S. Marine Corps

help us hold the line on the community spread that is a risk to everyone, both on and off base," Kunze wrote Monday. "We don't anticipate easing restrictions until cases off base begin to trend downward."

Okinawa prefecture announced 38 new coronavirus cases Monday, according to the Ryukyu Shimpo newspaper. The prefecture reported 48 new cases Saturday and 60 on Sunday for a total of 146, according to the prefecture's website. It also reported four deaths; a total of 14 have died

## 5 US troops test positive after going to S. Korea

Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — Five more American troops tested positive for the coronavirus after traveling from the United States to South Korea, the military said Monday, raising the total number of patients affiliated with U.S. Forces Korea to 157.

Three of the service members arrived at Osan Air Base on government-chartered flights that landed on Aug. 1, Aug. 3 and Saturday, USFK said. The other two arrived on commercial flights at Incheon International Airport on Aug. 11 and Thursday.

None had contact with the outside community because of strict testing and quarantine requirements for those traveling to South Korea, according to a USFK press release.

Three of the individuals tested positive on their first mandatory coronavirus test before entering the two-week quarantine, while the other two received positive results in the test required to exit quarantine, USFK said.

All have since been transferred to isolation facilities designated for coronavirus patients at Camp Humphreys or Osan Air Base, it added. Affected transportation assets and quarantine rooms also had been thoroughly cleaned.

Only 24 USFK personnel contracted the virus while stationed on the divided peninsula, with the last case confirmed in mid-April. The others tested positive after flying to South Korea for new assignments or returning from travels abroad.

news@starsandstripes.com

doornbos.caitlin@starsandstripes.com  
Twitter: @CaitlinDoornbos  
burke.matthew@starsandstripes.com  
Twitter: @MatthewMBurke1  
ichihashi.aya@starsandstripes.com  
Twitter: @AyaIchihashi

## MILITARY

## DODEA schools ready for virus learning experience

By JENNIFER H. SVAN  
Stars and Stripes

**KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany**—From mandatory face masks to one-way traffic in crowded hallways, the coronavirus has ensured a vastly different back-to-school experience for thousands of children of U.S. military and government workers in Europe when classes begin Monday.

There will be no games of tag at recess at some schools, fewer elective choices at others, maybe a “grab-n-go” lunch in the classroom instead of the cafeteria and no singing in music class, unless it’s outside and face coverings are worn.

In a series of virtual town hall meetings held during the past week, Department of Defense Education Activity-Europe school leaders discussed plans for safely returning to in-person learning for the first time since March, when school buildings abruptly closed as the coronavirus pandemic took hold.

The most noticeable change in schools will be a requirement for



BRIAN FERGUSON/Stars and Stripes

**Parents say goodbye to their children as they arrive for the first day of school at Vogelweh Elementary School last year.**

students and staff members to wear cloth face coverings when they’re unable to maintain a safe distance from others. Safety guidelines to reduce the spread of the coronavirus in schools, drawn up by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, say people should stay at least six feet apart if in-person events are held.

Face coverings will be mandatory on school buses, at the bus

stop and when students are in transit or moving throughout the school, officials said during the virtual town hall meetings.

“We are going to use the phrase ‘When my feet are moving, my mask is on,’” Ramstein Intermediate School principal Caryn Currie said during a virtual town hall last week. “That will help our students understand that in any transition period, their mask is on.”

In classrooms, recommendations for wearing masks or not will depend on class size and space, officials said.

For instance, RIS classrooms can safely accommodate up to 18 desks plus the teacher without continuous wearing of a face mask, they said. That’s the class ratio expected for third grade, but in fourth and fifth grades, the average class size is expected to be more than that, meaning students and teachers might have to wear masks in the classroom.

Schools have said they’ll provide two cloth face-coverings to staff members and students, but “they are absolutely free to wear whatever mask they have at home,” said Vogelweh Elementary School principal David Lee during a virtual town hall last week.

At Ramstein Middle School, however, staff and students must wear school-issued face coverings, officials said.

Plastic face shields are also permitted, but only with face coverings underneath and not during gym class, officials at several

schools said.

Some DODEA middle and high schools in Europe are also revising class schedules to keep students in cohorts as much as possible to minimize exposure to the virus.

At Wiesbaden High School, students will take four classes every day for a semester, rather than seven classes every other day, school officials said. The revised schedule would mean a teacher would come into contact with around 75 students a week instead of 150.

Students at some schools will also have fewer electives to choose from, since some teachers have gone over to virtual instruction, officials said. Music instruction will also be different, with some elementary schools no longer offering recorder lessons and upper-level band students at Ramstein Middle School receiving instruction at school and playing their instruments at home.

jennifer@stripes.com  
Twitter: @stripesktown

## Report: Operation failed to dislodge extremists from Philippines

By SETH ROBSON  
Stars and Stripes

Islamic extremists remain a stubborn problem in the Philippines despite a multi-year U.S. military effort to combat the threat, according to a recent report to Congress.

Operation Pacific Eagle-Philippines, an overseas contingency operation led by U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, has been ongoing since Sept. 1, 2017. Three years later, there are still 300-500 Islamic State-affiliated fighters in the Southeast Asian nation, according to the latest assessment by Defense Department acting inspector general Sean O’Donnell.

“There has been little change in the capabilities, size, financing and operations of [the Islamic State in East Asia],” O’Donnell wrote in the most recent report on the operation, which covers April 1 through June 30.

The failure to make progress eliminating the militant group comes despite the U.S. budgeting \$72.3 million for the operation in the current fiscal year, according to the report. It cost more than \$100 million in each of the previous two years, Voice of America reported Aug. 12.

Extremists continue to carry out sporadic, mostly small-scale attacks, and the Philippines military, with intelligence and air support from the U.S., continues counterterrorism operations to keep Islamic State affiliates from spreading, O’Donnell

wrote.

“In general, efforts to reduce extremism in the Philippines do not appear to have made a substantial difference since the launch of [Operation Pacific Eagle],” he wrote.

Islamic extremists have sought to capitalize on the Philippine government’s deployment of military assets to assist with the response to the coronavirus pandemic, the report states.

On April 17, approximately 40 Islamic militants ambushed Filipino soldiers on the island of Jolo, killing 12 and wounding 13. The Defense Intelligence Agency described it as the deadliest attack by the extremists since the January 2019 suicide bombing of a cathedral there that killed 23, according to the report.

However, “levels of violence in the Philippines were similar to previous quarters,” the report added.

A previous counterterrorism effort, Operation Enduring Freedom-Philippines, ran from 2002-2015. But in May 2017, a force of about 1,000 Islamic State militants seized the southern city of Marawi on the island of Mindanao, the center of Islamic culture in the Philippines.

Philippine troops prevailed in a monthslong battle to liberate the city but suffered heavy casualties, including more than 160 dead. The fighting devastated Marawi’s infrastructure and displaced 353,000 residents of the city and surround-

ing area. Most of the Islamic State-aligned fighters in the city, including their leader, Isnilon Hapilon, and his top lieutenants, were killed in the fighting.

A Philippines expert at the University of Hawaii said the inspector general’s assessment of counterterrorism efforts in the country sounds disingenuous.

“If you compare how much the U.S. has spent in Iraq and Afghanistan, the Philippine share is a pittance,” Patricia Abinales told Stars and Stripes via email Friday.

Islamic terrorism will remain an endemic problem in the Philippines given the fact that the U.S. offers only technical support to local forces, as well as the difficulty of policing the border and limiting military corruption, he said.

The erratic policy of pro-China Philippines President Rodrigo Duterte toward the U.S. military doesn’t help, Abinales said.

In February, Duterte’s government announced it would scrap the Visiting Forces Agreement governing U.S. troops in the country within 180 days. Then, in early June, Duterte suspended the termination for six months due to “political and other developments.”

The inspector general report notes: “This action threatens future prospects for U.S. military support to the Philippines.”

To avoid another Marawi, the U.S. military should continue to maintain close ties with Philippine counterparts, Abinales

said.

The U.S. should also reach out to the Moro Islamic Liberation Front he added.

“The MILF is the only reliable deterrent to ISIS in Muslim Mindanao,” he said. “As long as the MILF is supported in its efforts to expand Muslim autonomy, and also helped in turning itself into an effective governing body, and as long as the U.S. continues to counteract Wahabi influence in Muslim Mindanao by providing alternative sources of funds to Muslim communities and thus neutralize Saudi money, then the MILF will be an effective counterforce to ISIS efforts to establish a lasting foothold in the islands.”

Ultimately, there needs to be a political solution to the problems with extremism in the Philippines, said Ian Chong, an assistant professor in the National University of Singapore’s political science department.

“A military role can help facilitate that outcome, but is probably unable to do so alone,” he said in a Friday email.

Finding a solution will require will and direction from the Philippines government and population that doesn’t seem apparent, Chong added.

“Containment is a next best approach,” he said. “Insofar as such approaches hold, it may be possible to avoid a repeat of Marawi. But I don’t think there’s a guarantee.”

robson.seth@stripes.com  
Twitter: @sethrobson1




**CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF SERVING  
US MILITARY IN THE PACIFIC • 1945-2020**



**75.stripes.com**  
**STARS AND STRIPES**

## VIRUS OUTBREAK

## Airlines struggle as flyers unsure on safety

By DAVID KOENIG  
AND DAVID MCHUGH  
Associated Press

In a bid to survive, airlines are desperately trying to convince a wary public that measures like mandatory face masks and hospital-grade air filters make sitting in a plane safer than many other indoor settings during the coronavirus pandemic.

It isn't working.

Surveys indicate that instead of growing comfortable with air travel, more people are becoming skeptical about it. In the United States, airline bookings have stalled in the past month after slowly rising — a reaction to a new surge of reported virus infections.

Globally, air travel is down more than 85% from a year ago, according to industry figures.

The implications for the airline industry are grave. Several leading carriers already have filed for bankruptcy protection, and if the hoped-for recovery is delayed much longer, the list will grow.

The four largest U.S. airlines lost a combined \$10 billion from April through June. Their CEOs say they will survive, but they have lowered their expectations for a rebound.

"We were all hoping that by the fall the virus might run its



NATHAN ELLEREN/AP

**Melaku Gebermariam uses an electrostatic sprayer to disinfect the inside of a Delta airplane between flights July 22, at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport in Arlington, Va. During the coronavirus pandemic, U.S. airlines have scrambled to reassure travelers that planes are safe.**

course," said Southwest Airlines CEO Gary Kelly. "Obviously, that has proven to be dead wrong."

When Consumer Reports surveyed more than 1,000 people in

June about their comfort with various activities during the pandemic, 70% said flying was very or somewhat unsafe. They rated going to a hospital emergency

room or standing in line to vote as safer.

In a survey commissioned by an airline travel group, the biggest concern of travelers was the

possibility of sitting next to an infected person.

John Kontak, a schoolteacher from Phoenix, said that was his fear as soon as he stepped onto a crowded American Airlines flight this summer to visit his parents in Ohio.

"I don't know anything about this person who is sitting a foot away from me," Kontak said. "They took the bottom line or the dollar over the safety of passengers. Next time, I'd rather drive back to Ohio than fly — it's safer because I can control it."

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says sitting within 6 feet of other passengers, often for hours, may increase the risk of getting COVID-19. But CDC also notes that most viruses and other germs don't spread easily on flights because of how air circulates on planes.

Standard & Poor's said this week that the industry's prospects have gone "from bad to worse" with global air traffic dropping by up to 70% this year. In May, S&P said a 55% drop was a worst-case scenario.

An airline trade group, the International Air Transport Association, predicts carriers will lose \$84 billion this year, making it the worst year in the industry's history. The group says traffic won't fully recover until 2024.

## CDC: Infections are rising in children

The Washington Post

The number and rate of coronavirus cases in children have risen since the pandemic took hold in the spring, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said in recently updated guidance, underscoring the risk for young people and their families as the new school year begins.

According to the CDC, the infection rate in children 17 and under increased "steadily" from March to July. While the virus is far more prevalent and severe among adults, the true incidence of infection in American children remains unknown because of a lack of widespread testing, the

agency said.

The Food and Drug Administration granted emergency use authorization Saturday for a saliva-based coronavirus test, developed by Yale University researchers, that aims to reduce turnaround times in commercial laboratories.

The United States continues to report more than 1,000 coronavirus-related deaths every day. Health officials reported 1,220 new deaths and 57,120 new infections Saturday — roughly even with the 1,117 deaths and 56,555 cases announced on the same day the previous week.

School closures and other public health measures may have

contributed to initially low rates of coronavirus infections in children early in the pandemic, according to the CDC.

"This may explain the low incidence in children compared with adults," the agency said in its guidance. "Comparing trends in pediatric infections before and after the return to in-person school and other activities may provide additional understanding about infections in children."

Children between 5 and 17 years old also test positive for the coronavirus at higher rates than any other age group, according to CDC data, with positivity rates exceeding 10% in public and private lab tests.

## CDC asks 4 states and Philadelphia to draft vaccine plans

The Washington Post

Federal health officials are asking four states and one city to draft plans for how they would distribute a coronavirus vaccine when limited doses become available, possibly as early as this fall, officials said.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Department of Defense and other agencies recently began working with officials in California, Florida, Minnesota, North Dakota and Philadelphia to develop plans to transport and store vaccine and prioritize which individuals will get the first doses to protect against COVID-19, the disease caused by the virus. The proposals will consider each location's racial and ethnic makeup and population density.

Those plans will be shared with other states to help them with vaccine distribution planning. The discussions with states offer some of the first details of the federal government's plans at a time when information shared by the administration has been limited and often confusing. The United States is planning the largest vaccination campaign ever undertaken.

U.S. officials say that Operation Warp Speed, the administration's effort to expedite development of coronavirus countermeasures, is on track to deliver tens of millions of vaccine doses by January.

In the planning discussions, one of the hottest topics involves freezers. At least one vaccine candidate is expected to require storage at very cold temperatures, about minus-70 degrees Celsius. A top CDC official told state immunization officials Wednesday that states probably won't be expected to buy special freezers. But if a vaccine is approved by the Food and Drug Administration that requires such cold storage, states should prepare sites for mass vaccination clinics.

On Friday, the Defense and Health and Human Services departments announced that McKesson Corp. will be a central distributor of COVID-19 vaccines and related supplies.

Although President Donald Trump has said repeatedly the military will deliver vaccines, the Defense Department "is not actually going to be distributing or delivering the vaccines itself," Paul Marino, deputy chief of staff for policy at HHS, said Thursday.

## 1st Mediterranean cruise in months sets sail

Associated Press

ROME — Cruise ship passengers had their temperatures checked and took COVID-19 tests Sunday so they could set sail on what is being billed as the first Mediterranean cruise after Italy's pandemic lockdown.

The cruise ship company MSC has made the procedures, for crew as well as passengers, part of its new health and safety protocols. The MSC Grandiosa, which was chartered last year, set sail from the northern Italian port of Genoa on Sunday evening for a

seven-night cruise in the western Mediterranean.

Anyone testing positive, or with a fever, or having other COVID-19 symptoms, was denied boarding, the company said. Guest must wear face masks in elevators and other areas where social distancing is not possible. The crew spent time in quarantine before the start of the cruise.

Earlier this month, the Italian government gave its approval for cruise ships to once again depart from Italy's ports but limited cruise ships to sailing with 70% capacity.

MSC declined to say how many passengers were sailing on this cruise. Among the port calls for the Grandiosa, MSC's flagship, are Naples, Palermo, Sicily and Valletta, Malta.

For now, MSC was limiting its guests to the residents of Europe's 26-nation Schengen visa free travel zone.

MSC said every guest and crew member on board will be given a wristband that "facilitates contactless transactions around the ship as well as providing contact and proximity tracing."



## VIRUS OUTBREAK

## Returning global vacationers face new constraints

BY LORI HINNANT  
AND ANDREW MELDRUM  
Associated Press

PARIS — Countries that had seen a summer respite from coronavirus outbreaks tracked swiftly rising numbers of new confirmed cases Monday, prompting fears among government leaders and health officials that months of hard-won progress would be lost in just days as vacationers return home.

New restrictions on leisure activities accompanied the final weeks of summer break in Europe. Hours-long traffic jams formed at the Croatia-Slovenia border over the weekend as Austrians trying to beat a midnight quarantine deadline rushed home from a favored coastal vacation spot.

With one goal in mind, the Italian government closed discos, required masks from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. anywhere people might gather and began testing all arriving travelers from Spain, Greece, Malta and Croatia.

"Our priority must be the re-opening of schools in September in full safety," Italian Health Minister Roberto Speranza said. Italy's schools have been closed nationwide since early March.

France's two largest cities, Paris and Marseille, widened the areas where masks are required, and the French government sent riot police to the Marseille region to enforce the requirement.

The country's labor minister is planning negotiations for Tuesday on making masks mandatory in all workplaces and other employee safety measures. French government studies indicated that at least a quarter of new virus clusters that emerged from May 9 to Aug. 11 were linked to workplaces.

"We need a culture of masks, a culture of protective measures. We failed to deliver this clear message in the first wave," Dr. Giles Piauoux, the head of infectious diseases at Tenon Hospital in Paris, told France Inter radio Monday. "We need strong and coherent messages. I think the strategy of fear does not work."

In Greece, health officials attributed many new infections to wedding receptions and people ignoring social distancing and other public health protective measures while on vacation. Authorities began carrying out spot checks on ferry passengers returning to the mainland from the Greek islands amid growing concern of vacationers transporting the virus back to cities.

Three young Greeks reportedly broke quarantine on Sunday night while waiting for their virus

test results on the island of Patmos and boarded a ferry to the port of Piraeus outside of Athens. Two of the three tested positive, and all three were detained.

Despite the rise in cases, officials say schools will reopen as planned in Greece on Sept. 7.

Schools in northern regions of the Netherlands are reopening this week with most pupils expected back in classrooms by Wednesday without social distancing or face masks. Students returning from vacations in high-risk areas must quarantine at home for 14 days.

Education Minister Arie Slob insisted it is safe to return to high schools, but told NOS Radio 1 news that "there is never a 100% guarantee that everything will go well."

In the far grimmer case of Lebanon, reported coronavirus cases have surged after the devastating blast at the Beirut port earlier this month, prompting medical officials Monday to call for a two-week lockdown. The blast overwhelmed the city's hospitals and badly damaged two playing a key role in treating COVID-19 patients.

A new outbreak in New Zealand's largest city, Auckland, prompted Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern to delay the country's national election by four weeks. She said it would be the only postponement in the vote.

In South Korea, a conservative pastor who has been a bitter critic of the country's president tested positive for the coronavirus, health authorities said Monday, two days after he participated in an anti-government protest in Seoul that drew thousands.

More than 300 virus cases have been linked to the Rev. Jun Kwang-hun's huge church in northern Seoul, which has emerged as a major cluster of infections amid growing fears of a massive outbreak in the greater capital region.

The resurgence of the virus in the Seoul region was a rude awakening for a country that had been eager to tout its gains against the virus.

In South Africa, which is five months into one of the world's longest and strictest lockdowns, those restrictions were finally bringing signs of progress.

With the number of new cases declining and other indicators showing that South Africa has passed its first peak, the country Tuesday will resume sales of liquor and cigarettes, and allow bars, restaurants, gyms, places of worship and other venues to reopen, all with distancing requirements. Schools are set to reopen gradually beginning next week.



MATIAS DELACROIX/AP

Edward Murat, 20, carries his inner tube to the beach for open sea fishing at Playa Escondida in La Guaira, Venezuela, on Friday.

## Venezuelans brave open sea on tubes, fishing for survival

BY MATIAS DELACROIX  
AND JUAN PABLO ARRAEZ  
Associated Press

LA GUAIRA, Venezuela — A small but growing number of people in the coastal town of La Guaira, just a few minutes from the capital of Caracas, have turned to the sea for sustenance since the COVID-19 pandemic has shut down the Caribbean nation's already miserable economy.

"If we had steady work, we wouldn't risk our lives out there,"

said Juan Carlos Almeida, who is accompanied by his fishing partner Eric Mendez. "We're bricklayers, but there's no construction."

Others who paddle out in small groups up to 5 miles from shore lost jobs in restaurants or shops catering to beachgoers.

All the beaches are closed, but the workers still have hungry children at home in their hillside barrios.

"If we don't help ourselves and don't go to work, who's going to feed us?" said Almeida, 35.

"Nobody."

The coronavirus hit Venezuela in mid-March, and the government ordered most businesses closed. The virus has steadily spread in the five months since. Officials have said it's killed fewer than 300 and sickened roughly 31,000.

The nation remains largely paralyzed, and commercial flights have been grounded at the nation's main airport in La Guaira.

Stars and Stripes has partnered with the  
**Association of Military Spouse Entrepreneurs**  
on the first-ever

## Military Spouse Entrepreneur Guide!

Pick up the guide  
on **August 20th**  
at a base near you!



You can also check it out online at [stripes.com](https://www.stripes.com)!

## VIRUS OUTBREAK ROUNDUP

# NY reaches 7M mark in testing

From wire reports

**ALBANY, N.Y.** — The number of New York coronavirus tests coming back positive remained below 1% for a ninth consecutive day as the total number of tests conducted statewide during the pandemic hit 7 million, Gov. Andrew Cuomo said Sunday.

Six people died Saturday, he said, and more than 520 were in the hospital.

The governor on Monday is expected to released long-awaited reopening guidance for indoor gyms.

Bowling alleys can reopen statewide Monday but must limit occupancy to 50% and establish disinfection protocols for shared and rented equipment. Rules released by Cuomo on Friday also require bowling alley staff to close every other lane and bring food and alcohol to customers.

### California

**LOS ANGELES** — Coronavirus cases have surged in California over the last two months, fueled by the reopening of the economy. Although public health officials have said that making workplaces safer is essential to slowing the virus's spread, fear of retaliation is preventing many employees from voicing safety concerns, workers and labor organizers say.

The toll has been particularly hard on essential workers, a sizable percentage of whom are people of color toiling in factories, hospitals, retail establishments, hotels and agricultural fields across the state. Many who are reluctant to speak up are low-wage workers in the country illegally, who don't qualify for unemployment benefits. They worry that if they are fired, they may not find another job in a hard-hit economy and won't have a safety net.

California law protects workers against retaliation for voicing safety concerns or refusing to engage in hazardous work. Those who feel they have been targeted can file a lawsuit or submit a claim with the state labor commissioner's office.

Since Gov. Gavin Newsom issued a stay-at-home order March 19, the office's Retaliation Complaint Investigation Unit has received more than 300 claims that mentioned the coronavirus. Of those, at least 95 are under investigation for health and safety issues, such as failure to enforce mandates on masks and physical distancing.

### Washington

**OLYMPIA** — The Washington State Department of Health on Sunday reported 576 new confirmed cases of COVID-19 and 15 deaths.

King County continues to have

the highest numbers in Washington, with 17,623 cases and 694 deaths. Yakima County is second, with 10,625 cases and 221 deaths. Pierce is third with cases at 6,150.

The Olympian reported that Pierce County reported 55 new cases and no new deaths Saturday. Pierce County had a total of 132 deaths likely caused by COVID-19 as of Saturday, according to the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department.

Statewide totals from the illness caused by the coronavirus are at 67,461 cases and 1,781 deaths, up from 66,885 cases and 1,766 deaths on Friday.

### Oklahoma

**TULSA** — A top White House coronavirus adviser continued to press Sunday for people to cover their faces and to social distance to fight the global pandemic during a stop in Oklahoma, where Republican Gov. Kevin Stitt has resisted imposing a statewide mask order.

Dr. Deborah Birx led the roundtable discussion at the Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences in Tulsa. The meeting was closed to journalists, but state and local officials who attended told the Tulsa World that Birx was unwavering on the necessity for masks and distancing in public.

A statement from Stitt's office said Birx complimented Oklahoma's push to use saliva testing for COVID-19.

The state Department of Emergency Management has begun sending personal protective equipment for schools statewide as classes begin, some in-person and some by distance learning.

### North Carolina

**CHAPEL HILL** — Another cluster of positive COVID-19 cases within student housing was announced Sunday at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

The disclosure of cases within the Hinton James dormitory building marks the fourth such cluster — defined as five or more cases in close proximity — since the semester began Aug. 10 at the state's flagship public university campus. The other three have occurred within an on-campus dormitory, private student housing and a fraternity house.

As with the other clusters, the individuals testing positive in the Hinton James cluster are being isolated and receiving medical monitoring. Contact tracing is also happening.

Sunday's announcement is likely to add to the tensions at a special meeting Monday of UNC-Chapel Hill's Faculty Executive Committee to discuss the coronavirus



ROBERT F. BUKATY/AP

**Mark Brauer of Hebron, Conn., center, and Doug Gagnon, right, of Middletown, Conn., check out a moose head displayed in front of the Indian Store on Saturday in Greenville, Maine. The small town on Moosehead Lake is having one of its busiest summers, according to Randy Coulton, co-owner of the Indian Store. Tourists are increasingly complying with Maine's face-covering regulations to help prevent the spread of the coronavirus, said Coulton.**

clusters. The committee of more than a dozen members advises school administrators on university issues. The News & Observer of Raleigh reported. Students are receiving a mix of in-person and remote instruction.

### Florida

**TALLAHASSEE** — Florida reported about 3,900 new cases of the coronavirus Sunday, the lowest daily total in nearly two months. The number of Floridians dying of the disease — 107 — also took a dramatic downward turn from the last few days.

The lower numbers come just days before Florida voters cast ballots Tuesday in primaries across the state for congressional, legislative and other seats. More than 2.3 million people have opted to vote early, instead of braving lines and the risk of infection.

Election officials have urged voters to avoid the trip to precincts on Election Day by casting ballots early, including mailing in their completed ballots. Officials, however, have assured voters who decide to show up at the polls on Tuesday that doing so will be safe.

The new cases announced Sunday by the Florida Health Department continued a steady decline from last month, when the one-day total of newly reported cases surged to 15,300 cases on July 12.

### Illinois

**CHICAGO** — Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot again warned Sunday of rising COVID-19 rates, saying young people are behind the recent uptick.

The first-term Democrat spoke Sunday to CBS' "Face the Nation," as the state reported 1,562 new confirmed cases and 18 deaths.

Lightfoot said that there has also been an increase among Latinos, which city officials are trying to address by working with community groups.

Overall, Illinois has reported 206,081 confirmed cases and 7,744 deaths since the pandemic began.

### Nebraska

**WAYNE** — Two Wayne State College professors said they are frustrated that their requests to teach remotely this fall were denied.

Longtime history professor Don Hickey, 76, said he hired an attorney after college officials rejected his request.

After Hickey told administrators he would teach his classes remotely whether they approved or not, he was told his classes would be taught on campus by other faculty members. Hickey has taught at the school since 1978.

Another Wayne State history faculty member, Joseph Weixelman, 63, also had his request

rejected.

Weixelman said he has multiple sclerosis and that medications for the disease suppress the immune system, which could make him more susceptible to severe illness from the COVID-19 virus.

### Michigan

**DETROIT** — Michigan quietly surpassed 100,000 coronavirus cases when both confirmed and probable cases totaled 100,724 on Friday, five months into the pandemic.

Using that metric, at least 6,500 people have died of COVID-19, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services reported — a number higher than those who died in the 9/11 terror attacks and the attack on Pearl Harbor combined.

Still, by most measures, Michigan has managed to contain the spread better than many other states in a country that leads the world with 5.3 million cases and more than 168,000 deaths, according to the Johns Hopkins COVID-19 Global Case Tracker.

But it's nowhere near over yet. The state should prepare to see another 100,000 new cases in the next five months, said Dr. Peter Gulick, an infectious disease specialist and associate professor of medicine at Michigan State University.



## NATION

## Puerto Rico governor loses party primary

Associated Press

LOIZA, Puerto Rico — Puerto Rican Gov. Wanda Vazquez on Sunday acknowledged losing the primary of her pro-statehood party to Pedro Pierluisi, who briefly served as the U.S. territory's governor last year amid political turmoil.

With more than 78% of electoral colleges reporting late Sunday, Pierluisi received more than 57% of the vote compared with more than 42% for Vazquez.

"We have to abide by the decision of the majority," Vazquez said in a brief speech where she warned Pierluisi that he should "aspire" to have the support of those who voted for her. She will remain as governor until the winner of Puerto Rico's Nov. 3 general elections takes office.

Pierluisi spoke shortly after Vazquez and said the governor can count on him: "We all have to be united to push Puerto Rico forward."

Meanwhile, Carlos Delgado, mayor of the northwest town of Isabela for 20 years, was poised to win by a landslide the nomination of the main opposition Popular Democratic Party. Conceding defeat was Puerto Rico Sen. Eduardo Bhatia and San Juan Mayor Carmen Yulín Cruz, known for her public spats with U.S. President Donald Trump.

With more than 68% of electoral colleges reporting, Delgado had received more than 60% of the vote.

The results came one week after delayed and missing ballots led to a chaotic primary that forced a second round of voting on Sunday in which thousands of Puerto Ricans got a second chance to vote for the first time.

Voting centers in nearly 50 of the island's 78 municipalities opened following a recent U.S. Supreme Court decision that stated a second round of voting would take place at centers that never opened on Aug. 9 or did not remain open the required eight hours.

Puerto Rico's general elections will set a record six candidates running for governor. Among them is Pierluisi, who served for governor less than a week after former Gov. Ricardo Rosselló resigned last year.

## Oust Trump just the ticket for Dems

By BILL BARROW

Associated Press

ATLANTA — For the second time in four years, the Democratic presidential primary pitted the expanding progressive movement against an eventually victorious establishment. But as the party gathers virtually this week to nominate Joe Biden for the presidency, the possibility of President Donald Trump's reelection has become Democrats' unifying and energizing force.

"Nobody fits neatly and tightly into any one bucket," said Georgia Democratic Chairwoman Nikema Williams. "What we all fit into is knowing that right now we don't have leadership in our country, and it's hurting all of us."

That's an important shift from 2016, when Hillary Clinton struggled to build a coalition between her supporters and those who backed Sen. Bernie Sanders, who again finished as runner-up this year. It reflects both the work Biden has done to court the left

and the urgency among Democrats to defeat Trump, which has only intensified amid the coronavirus pandemic, economic turmoil and a national reckoning on racism.

Still, the party's ideological splits haven't vanished. There are disagreements over how to achieve universal health care, make higher education affordable, overhaul law enforcement practices and reengage with countries that are questioning America's role in the world.

Leaders on the left warn that Biden must still keep their interests in mind, offering a reminder that even a November victory won't guarantee a united front during a Biden presidency.

"Progressives are going to vote against Trump," said Stephanie Taylor, co-founder of the Progressive Change Campaign Committee, but she called it "demoralizing and wrong" for Biden and the Democratic National Committee to give convention airtime to fig-

ures like billionaire Mike Bloomberg, the former New York City mayor who spent more than \$500 million of his own money running for the nomination.

Taylor nodded at Biden's pick of Kamala Harris as his running mate, the first Black woman on a major party's ticket. But she cast the California senator, who is also of Asian descent, as an establishment politician alongside Biden, a former vice president first elected to the Senate in 1972.

"If Biden and Harris want to energize progressives to donate and volunteer," Taylor said, "they need to elevate leaders like Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and Julian Castro, and policies like canceling student debt and Medicare for All. Progressive energy matters, and voter energy matters. We're fighting Trump as hard as we can right now — just don't take that for granted."

Despite Biden's five decades at the core of the Democratic Party, he's not a natural fit for every fac-

tion in 2020.

As younger activists gain clout in shaping the party's priorities, Biden will be 78 on Inauguration Day, making him the oldest person to assume the presidency if he's elected. As a white man, his core constituencies are white moderates and Black women, who revived his campaign in part because of their appreciation of Biden's service as vice president to Barack Obama, the first Black president. And his reverence for institutions such as Congress is at odds with the most intense voices of both political parties, where activists often put a premium on outsiders and aren't eager to compromise.

To a large degree, Biden is comfortable with the challenges. From its start, his campaign has been as much a moral argument against Trump as about settling an absolute identity for his party. He's said plainly he wouldn't have run if Trump weren't president.

## Pelosi calls House back from vacation to vote on USPS bill

By LISA MASCARO  
AND MATTHEW DALY  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Speaker Nancy Pelosi is calling the House back into session over the crisis at the U.S. Postal Service, setting up a political showdown amid growing concerns that the Trump White House is trying to undermine the agency ahead of the election.

Pelosi is cutting short lawmakers' summer recess with a vote expected Saturday on legislation that would prohibit changes at the agency as tensions mount. President Donald Trump's new postmaster general, Louis DeJoy, has sparked nationwide outcry over delays, new prices and cutbacks just as millions of Americans will be expected to vote by mail to avoid polling places during the coronavirus outbreak.

Trump on Monday defended the agency's embattled new leader, a major Republican donor, but also criticized postal operations

and claimed that universal mail-in ballots would be "a disaster."

"I want to make the post office great again," Trump said on "Fox & Friends." Later at the White House he denied asking for a mail-delivery slowdown.

The decision to recall the House, made after a weekend of high-level leadership discussions, carries a political punch. Voting in the House will highlight the issue after the weeklong Democratic National Convention nominating Joe Biden as the party's presidential pick and pressure the Republican-held Senate to respond. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell sent senators home for a summer recess.

"In a time of a pandemic, the Postal Service is Election Central," Pelosi wrote Sunday in a letter to colleagues, who had been expected to be out of session until September. "Lives, livelihoods and the life of our American Democracy are under threat from the president."

At an event in Kentucky on



PATRICK SEMANSKY/AP

**Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., is calling the House back into session over the crisis at the U.S. Postal Service.**

Monday, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell distanced himself from Trump's complaints about mail operations. But he also declined to recall senators to Washington, vowing the Postal Service "is going to be just fine."

"We're going to make sure that the ability to function going into the election is not adversely affected," McConnell said in Horse Cave, Ky. "And I don't share the president's concerns."

Trump said last week that he was blocking a \$25 billion emergency injection sought by

the Postal Service, as well as a Democratic proposal to provide \$3.6 billion in additional election money to the states. The money for the post office is intended to help with processing an expected surge of mail-in ballots. Both funding requests have been tied up in congressional negotiations over a new coronavirus relief package.

The president's critics contend that Trump has made the calculation that a lower voter turnout would improve his chances of winning a second term.

## NEW TO THE PACIFIC?

Contact [CustomerHelp@stripes.com](mailto:CustomerHelp@stripes.com) to get your free copy of

Welcome to the Pacific magazine!

STARS AND STRIPES

Digital edition also available. Download online



## NATION

## 4 killed, 20 hurt in Cincinnati shootings

Associated Press

CINCINNATI — Police in Cincinnati say three more people suffered gunshot wounds as a violent weekend that saw four killings and at least 20 injuries came to a close.

Police said the three Sunday evening shootings were unrelated, and none of the three victims had life-threatening wounds.

Those shootings followed four gunfire outbreaks early Sunday in which 18 people were shot, four fatally. In one case, 10 people were shot. Police said they're trying to

determine why there was such a string of shootings in one weekend. Mayor John Cranley called it "senseless gun violence."

Police said the department would shift officers from other assignments to increase the number of uniformed officers in the affected communities and would call on federal prosecutors and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives for help.

Cranley said the city was facing "unprecedented circumstances and challenges" in fighting crime during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Officers responded just after

12:30 a.m. Sunday to the Avondale neighborhood and found Antonio Blair, 21, with gunshot wounds, police said in a statement. He was taken to University Hospital and died there, they said. Three other gunshot victims were also taken to the hospital.

At about 2:15 a.m., officers responded to a report of gunfire in the Over-the-Rhine neighborhood where 10 people were shot, police said. One died at the scene and another at the University of Cincinnati Medical Center; they were identified in a statement as Robert Rogers, 34, and Jaquiez Grant, 30.

Three people were shot at about midnight Saturday in the Walnut Hills neighborhood, about a block away from the Harriet Beecher Stowe house, police said.

Assistant Police Chief Paul Neudigate told reporters that the shootings "seem to be separate independent incidents but horrific and tragic."

Police didn't immediately provide details about the fourth fatal shooting but confirmed that it occurred on the city's West End.

No suspect information was immediately available in any of the cases.

## Hostage situation in Texas ends peacefully

CEDAR PARK, Texas — A hostage situation ended peacefully Monday morning when a man and his mother exited a home near Austin where a day earlier three police officers had been shot and wounded.

Cedar Park Police said on Twitter that the man and his mother "had come out of the house peacefully" about 9 a.m. An hour earlier, police held a press conference and announced that the man had released his brother, sister and a family pet.

Police had been in negotiations with the man for more than 16 hours since the officers were wounded Sunday afternoon at the home in Cedar Park, interim police chief Mike Harmon said.

The man's name wasn't immediately released by police.

## Man beaten blocks away from Portland protest

PORTLAND, Ore. — A man appeared to have been punched and kicked unconscious by demonstrators just blocks away from a peaceful protest in Portland as unrest continued in Oregon's biggest city.

Multiple videos posted online apparently showed the man sitting in the street next to a truck that he had been driving, which had crashed Sunday night, news outlets reported. People were crowded around him and he appeared to have been punched at least once and later kicked in the head.

Separately, a protest that began Sunday evening was led by Letha Winston, whose son Patrick Kimmons, 27, was fatally shot by Portland police in 2018.

## 5 hurt in shooting at San Antonio flea market

SAN ANTONIO — At least five people were wounded, including one critically injured, in a shooting at a flea market in San Antonio on Sunday, police officials said.

The gunfire erupted about 11:30 a.m. at Mission Market during a dispute on the grounds, according to Police Chief William McManus.

"This is the result of some type of argument. I don't know if the argument was between gang members or just people who knew each other or didn't know each other," McManus said.

## Chief: Protester kicks biker during Sturgis rally

STURGIS, S.D. — A protester was arrested after kicking at a biker during the annual Sturgis motorcycle rally in western South Dakota, the police chief said.

Chief Goody Vandewater said a small group of protesters was gathered on Sturgis' Main Street on Saturday when one of the demonstrators kicked the motorcycle as it passed by. The crowd began swarming toward the protesters, and Vandewater said police escorted the demonstrators to a safe spot.

"It was a little chaotic for a bit," the chief told The Associated Press.

From The Associated Press

## Mayor defends Chicago police after skirmish with protesters

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot praised city police Sunday for "fairly quickly" settling weekend protests that devolved into violent skirmishes while activists and other elected officials blasted police for unnecessary aggressive tactics.

The day of demonstrations against police brutality started peacefully Saturday with a march around town. Later, a separate demonstration near downtown resulted in two dozen arrests, 17 injured officers and at least two injured protesters. None of the injuries were believed to be life-threatening.

Lightfoot told CBS' "Face the Nation" on Sunday that agitators "have embedded themselves in these seemingly peaceful protests and come for a fight" though the clashes were "over very fairly quickly because our police department is resolved to make sure that we protect peaceful protesters."

Chicago Police Department Superintendent David Brown said that some in the group used black umbrellas to make it harder for police to see them, pushed officers and assaulted them. In one video released by Chicago police, a person swinging a skateboard strikes an officer.

At the same time, activist groups and some elected officials called out police for using aggressive tactics, including spraying the crowd with a chemical irritant and striking protesters with batons.

"The march was peaceful until CPD and other law enforcement agencies began an assault on protesters," said a Sunday statement from youth activist group Increase The Peace.

Several Chicago Democrats, including state Sen. Robert Peters, state Rep. Lakesia Collins and Alderman Byron Sigcho-Lopez, questioned using department money on such a response to protesters in a city that has had a lower homicide case clearance rate than other big cities.

"We once again condemn Mayor Lightfoot and Superintendent Brown for their use of police force against these demonstrators on Saturday night, and for the continued escalation of surveillance, violence, and detention of protesters," said a Sunday statement from the group.

The march came about a week after a police shooting of a black man in the Englewood neighborhood on the city's South Side.



SHMUEL THALER, THE SANTA CRUZ (CALIF.) SENTINEL/AP

A rare lightning storm crackles over Mitchell's Cove in Santa Cruz, Calif., around 3 a.m. Sunday morning.

## Rare lightning storm sparks more wildfires across Calif.

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — A rare summer thunderstorm brought lightning that sparked several small blazes in Northern California on Sunday and stoked a huge wildfire that has forced hundreds of people from their homes north of Los Angeles.

More than 4,500 buildings remained threatened by the fire burning toward thick, dry brush in the Angeles National Forest. Firefighters already battling the blaze in steep, rugged terrain with scorching heat faced more hurdles when hundreds of lightning strikes and winds up to 15 mph pushed the flames uphill.

"We set up a containment line at the top of the hills so the fire doesn't spill over to the other side and cause it to spread, but it was obviously difficult given the erratic wind and some other conditions," said fire spokesman Jake Miller.

The Lake Fire was just 12% contained Sunday and has burned nearly 28 square miles of brush and trees. Fire officials said 33 buildings had been destroyed, including at least a dozen homes.

Temperatures reached more than 110 degrees and a pyrocumulus created erratic fire behavior, fire spokesman Tom Ewald said.

Thunderstorm and excessive heat were also a concern for firefighters battling a blaze that blackened almost 4 square miles in the foot-

hills above the Los Angeles suburb of Azusa. The fire, believed to be started Thursday by a homeless man, is only 3% contained.

Many areas of the state saw triple-digit temperatures through the weekend and the combination of prolonged heat and smoke from wildfires sent ozone pollution to levels not seen in a decade in some areas. Air quality may reach unhealthy to very unhealthy levels in several regions of Southern California on Sunday and Monday afternoons, the South Coast Air Quality Management District said.

In Northern California, moisture from an offshore tropical storm fueled a thunderstorm that brought nonstop lightning strikes early Sunday, some of which ignited small fires and knocked out power across the San Francisco Bay Area.

Wind gusts reached 75 mph, according to the National Weather Service, which said another round of lightning may develop early Monday.

"This is probably the most widespread and violent summer thunderstorm event in memory for Bay Area, & it's also one of the hottest nights in years," tweeted Daniel Swain, a climate scientist at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Unsettling weather triggered an unusual warning by the weather service of a fire-induced tornado at an out-of-control forest fire that broke out north of Lake Tahoe on Saturday afternoon.

# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Boat explosion forces 6 to jump into water

**CT** NORWALK — Connecticut officials are investigating the cause of a boat explosion that forced six people to jump to safety into Norwalk Harbor.

Multiple people called 911 to report the explosion. All six people aboard were rescued, including two who were taken to a hospital but were expected to recover, Norwalk police said.

The operator of the 33-foot Egg Harbor yacht told authorities engine trouble developed as they were leaving the harbor, and the explosion happened about 100 yards from shore after they had turned around and were heading back toward the dock.

The boat became engulfed in flames and everyone aboard jumped off, police said. Firefighters towed it back to shore and put out the fire.

## July to be 'National Blueberry Month'

**ME** PORTLAND, — The U.S. Senate approved a request to designate July as "National Blueberry Month" at the urging of senators from one of the country's most important blueberry growing states.

Maine Sens. Susan Collins, a Republican, and Angus King, an independent, called for the designation. Their state is America's top producer of wild blueberries.

The senators said in a joint statement the resolution recognizes the importance of the industry as it faces "tremendous strain due to the ongoing trade retaliation and disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic."

The resolution also says tribute to indigenous people who first cultivated the fruit long before the arrival of Europeans.

## 2 arrested after stolen vehicle pursuit

**IA** DES MOINES — Two people were arrested in Des Moines after fleeing from police in a stolen car and taking refuge in a house with one of their children inside, authorities said.

Des Moines Police Department spokesman Sgt. Paul Parizek said the owner of the car spotted the vehicle, leading to a chase on Interstate 235. The Des Moines Register reported.

Police called off the pursuit due to reckless driving. But Parizek said someone spotted the vehicle coming back into the city and followed it until it was abandoned. Two suspects then ran to a nearby home, where the 13-year-old child of one of the suspects wasn't allowed to leave for about an hour.

The two suspects were taken into custody.

## Police wrote tickets outside jurisdiction

**GA** OLIVER — A small Georgia city's police department wrote more than 130 speeding tickets on a road where it had no jurisdiction, a state



KEITH SRAKOCIC/AP

## Cast away your troubles

A fisherman in a kayak makes a cast as two other kayakers paddle past on Lake Arthur at Moraine State Park in Portersville, Pa.

agency's investigation found.

Citations issued on Kildare Road over a two-year period by police in the city of Oliver brought in more than \$40,000 in fines to its municipal court, WTOG-TV reported.

The television station determined the average ticket was around \$342. One driver paid as much as \$875 and another agreed to serve 30 hours of community service. That stopped this year when one driver who got pulled over wrote a complaint to the Georgia Department of Public Safety.

The agency's investigating found that Oliver police didn't have the required state permission to use speed-detection devices on that road.

## Man arrested after stolen ambulance chase

**OH** TOLEDO — A man is in custody after leading troopers on a chase through three Ohio counties in a stolen ambulance, the Ohio State Highway Patrol said.

Troopers were dispatched to check on an ambulance that had been reported stolen from Mercy Health St. Vincent's Medical Center in Toledo and was parked on Route 24 in Lucas County, police said.

When troopers arrived to check on the ambulance, the driver fled west into Henry County, police said. Troopers tried unsuccessfully to halt the vehicle using stop sticks, and it continued into Defiance County, where troopers were able to deflate the two front

## THE CENSUS

# 3K

The approximate amount in gallons of fuel that leaked from a generator at a Charleston, S.C., wastewater treatment plant. Wastewater workers noticed the leak and called in contractors to help clean up the spill, Charleston Water System spokesman Mike Saia told The Post and Courier newspaper. More than 3,000 gallons of diesel fuel have been documented as missing from the backup generator where the pump control failed at the Plum Island Wastewater Treatment Plant, but they aren't sure how much of it got into the water, Saia said. Andrew Wunderley of Charleston Waterkeeper said that floodwater and high tides could quickly wash any fuel that remained on land into the marshes. That could affect the wildlife in the marshes.

tires with stop sticks.

The driver, a Texas man, was taken into custody.

## Suspect arrested after barricading inside bus

**MD** LUTHERVILLE-TIMONIUM — A man barricaded himself inside a public transit bus in a Baltimore suburb after he woke up and began making threats with a weapon, authorities said.

Police received a call about the situation inside the bus, said Kevin Gay, a public information specialist with the Baltimore County Police Department. Officers and a SWAT team responded to the scene near a light rail station and shopping center in Lutherville-Timonium.

Gay said the suspect was the only person inside the bus during the barricade incident. A loud bang was heard at the scene and seconds later, officers and SWAT team members went inside the bus and took the man into custody.

They did not immediately identify the suspect.

## Ex-employee accused of smashing work vehicles

**RI** PROVIDENCE, — A former public works employee was accused of smashing vehicles at his former workplace in Providence with an ax.

WPRI-TV reported Raymond Fratus, 46, of Coventry, was charged with two counts of malicious damage.

Police said Fratus showed up at a Providence Department of Public Works building and smashed the windows of someone's personal car. He's also accused of smashing a DPW truck used by his former supervisor at another DPW location.

A city spokesperson said Fratus resigned in June after four years as a highway department mechanic.

## Sea turtle rescued after snared, circled by sharks

**NJ** CAPE MAY — Authorities said a sea turtle entangled in a fishing trap line and

being circled by sharks off New Jersey was rescued by a Coast Guard cutter.

The Coast Guard said the stricken animal was reported 11 miles southeast of Cape May by the Marine Mammal Stranding Center, which works to free stranded animals along the coast of the Garden State.

The cutter Shearwater, an 87-foot patrol boat, headed to the scene and saw sharks encircling the turtle, so a team in a small boat was sent to circle the ailing animal until the sharks dispersed. Officials said crew members then cautiously approached the turtle and cut it free.

## Billboard promoting town was stolen

**NC** MARION — Officials touting their North Carolina town as "simply unexpected" on a billboard soon found something they weren't expecting.

The town of Marion is looking for the billboard posted along Interstate 40 to attract travelers and tourists after it disappeared. The 12-by-30-foot sign showed a colorful photo of downtown Marion and bears the message "Marion North Carolina Simply Unexpected."

It was erected July 30, but Aug. 9, Marion Business Association director Freddie Killough said the sign was gone. The sign is valued at \$875. It was paid for by the Marion Business Association in partnership with the city, Killough said.

From wire reports



## WORLD

# NATO denies claim of forces near Belarus

By SLOBODAN LEKIC  
Stars and Stripes

NATO has rejected accusations by embattled Belarus President Alexander Lukashenko that it was deploying forces to that country's western frontiers but said it was keeping a close eye on events there.

"NATO does not pose a threat to Belarus and has no military buildup in the region," Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg said in a statement Monday as huge public protests continued to roil Belarus following Lukashenko's claim that he soundly won reelection in the Aug. 9 presidential elections.

"We remain vigilant, strictly defensive, and ready to deter any aggression against NATO allies," Stoltenberg said. "We support a sovereign and independent Belarus."

Lukashenko claimed Sunday that NATO forces were 15 minutes from Belarus' western borders with Poland and Lithuania.

"NATO troops are at our gates. Lithuania, Latvia, Poland and ... Ukraine are ordering us to hold new elections," he told supporters at a rally in the capital city of

Minsk, according to Reuters news agency.

He warned Belarusians that their country would "die as a state" if new polls were held, Reuters also reported.

Official results show Lukashenko won 80.1% of the vote while opposition candidate Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya garnered just 10.1%.

Tsikhanouskaya was detained for seven hours after lodging a complaint about the election result and left for Lithuania as part of a deal to secure the release of her campaign manager, BBC News reported.

Large groups of protesters took to the streets throughout Belarus on Sunday, including in Minsk, calling for the country's leader of 26 years to leave. Opposition leaders have called for a wave of strikes following reports that security forces tortured detained demonstrators and videos of police violence shared on social media.

Lukashenko, who has been in power since 1994 and has been dubbed Europe's last dictator, told factory workers in Minsk on Monday he is "ready to share presidential authority" through constitutional reforms but would not bow to pressure from protesters, the Belarusian state in-

formation agency Belta reported. Many of the factory workers shouted "Leave" and heckled him at the event, videos posted on social media showed.

U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo denounced the elections as "not free and fair" in a statement released a day after the polls.

Citing intimidation tactics, ballot restrictions against opposition candidates, detentions of peaceful protesters and journalists, and independent observers being banned from polling stations, Pompeo said, "Free and fair elections, genuinely contested, are the basis for the authority and legitimacy of all governments."

Stoltenberg also called for the rights of Belarusians to be respected, "including freedom of speech and the right to peaceful protest."

"NATO Allies are watching developments in Belarus closely," he said.

Lukashenko began accusing the U.S. and NATO of interference even before the election, as opposition to his decades of rule grew.

"Mass media are keeping us on our toes speculating that the Americans, NATO

want to invade us," Belta quoted Lukashenko as saying. "Some people with American passports were detained; they were married to American women working in the Department of State."

Belarus' historically close ties to Moscow have been strained in recent years, as Lukashenko has at times sought greater cooperation with the West. Belarus' top military official told the Nasha Niva newspaper at the beginning of this year that it was open to joint exercises with NATO.

The alliance has four battalion-size multinational battlegroups deployed to Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland as part of its forward presence in eastern Europe. The battlegroups, led by the United Kingdom, Canada, Germany and the United States, were formed in response to the Kremlin's annexation of Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula in 2014 and the ongoing conflict in Ukraine's eastern provinces.

Belarus' armed forces comprise around 45,000 active troops — 29,000 in the army and 16,000 in the air force and air defense units, according to the 2020 CIA World Factbook.

lekic.slobodan@stripes.com

## Hourslong siege of Somalian hotel ended; 15 killed

By ABDI GULED  
Associated Press

MOGADISHU, Somalia — Somalia's security forces on Sunday ended a nearly five-hour siege by Islamic extremists at a beachside hotel in Somalia's capital, said police and a government spokesman.

At least 15 people were killed when the attackers invaded the Elite Hotel, a new establishment popular with Mogadishu's young people, said Col. Ahmed Aiden, a police officer.

Security forces later killed all four attackers and rescued dozens of people who were trapped inside the hotel, Ismail Mukhtar, spokesman of Somalia's information ministry told The Associated Press.

The attack started in the afternoon with a powerful car bomb blast which blew off the security gates to the hotel. Then gunmen ran inside and took hos-



FAHAR ABDI WARSAMEN/AP

Medical workers and other Somalis help a civilian woman, who was wounded when a powerful car bomb blew off the security gates to the Elite Hotel, as she arrives at a hospital in Mogadishu, Somalia on Sunday.

tages, mostly young men and women who were dining there, he said.

Somalia's homegrown Islamic extremist rebels, al-Shabab, who are allied to al-Qaida, have claimed responsibility for the attack via its radio arm, Andalus.

## Lebanese president calls blast probe 'very complex'

By SARAH EL DEEB  
Associated Press

BEIRUT — Lebanese President Michel Aoun said the probe into this month's devastating blast in Beirut is "very complex" and would not be finished quickly.

Responding to calls that he step down, Aoun told French TV station BFMTV that it would be "impossible" because it would create a power vacuum. The interview, his first with foreign media since the Aug. 4 blast, aired late Saturday.

The cause of the fire that ignited nearly 3,000 tons of ammonium nitrate stored at Beirut's port remains unclear. Documents have emerged showing that the

country's top leadership, including Aoun, and security officials were aware of the chemicals that had been stored there for years.

The blast killed 180 people and wounded more than 6,000. At least 30 people are still missing.

Aoun said the probe is divided into three parts. The first aims to determine the circumstances surrounding the cargo, the second where it came from and who shipped it and the third to find who was responsible for handling and securing it.

"We had the determination to reach conclusions quickly, but we found out that the issues are very complex and require time," said Aoun.

ENTER TO WIN A \$100 GIFT CARD!



ONE WINNER EVERY MONTH!



GO TO 75.STRIPES.COM TODAY!

## ANNOUNCING THE BEST OF 2020

Your votes. Your favorites. Your Best of the Pacific.

STARS AND STRIPES



View the digital edition or download now



## WORLD

# Thai student-led protests extend beyond campus

By JERRY HARMER  
Associated Press

BANGKOK — Anti-government protesters gathered in large numbers in Thailand's capital on Sunday for a rally that suggested their movement's strength may extend beyond the college campuses where it had blossomed.

Thousands of people assembled at Bangkok's Democracy Monument, a traditional venue for political activities, where they heard speeches, watched skits and listened to music. Hundreds of police were also present, as well as a small contingent of royalists opposed to the protesters. There was no reliable estimate of the crowd size, though it appeared to be one of the biggest demonstrations in several years.

The rally ended after almost eight hours with about two dozen students who are facing arrest joining together on stage to repeat their demands and renew their commitment to the cause of democracy. They issued a call for the government to take action by next month or face another major protest rally.

The student-led movement had already declared three core demands: holding new elections, amending the constitution and ending the intimidation of critics of the government.

At the finale of Sunday's rally, they spelled out three more points, which were also written on banners behind them: no coup d'etat, no national unity government and upholding Thailand as a democracy with the king as head of state under the constitution.



GEMUNU AMARASINGHI/AP

**Pro-democracy activist and student leaders greet supporters after a protest rally at Democracy Monument in Bangkok on Sunday.**

The reference to a national unity government was apparently a warning to all political parties against making a backroom deal instead of holding elections, and the reference to the king seemed to be meant as reassurance that they did not want to abolish the monarchy.

"It is clear that students from several generations are the driving force of change in Thai society," said Narin Isariyasith, 20, a student at Thammasat University.

"We have done this in the past, but Thailand still has no full democracy," he said. "Dictatorship keeps coming back. And I think it is our duty to end this vicious cycle."

# Israel shuts Gaza fishing zone after overnight fighting

Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Israel closed the Gaza Strip's offshore fishing zone Sunday following a night of cross-border fighting with Palestinian militants, the most intense escalation of hostilities in recent months.

Palestinian militants in Gaza fired two rockets into southern Israel after Israeli airstrikes targeted sites which belong to the territory's militant Hamas rulers.

The military said the Iron Dome aerial defense system intercepted the two rockets that militants in Gaza launched at southern Israel. But police said rocket fallout caused damage to a house in the town of Sderot, and paramedics treated a 58-year-old man for minor wounds from the

exploding glass.

The Israeli army said the strikes were a response to explosive balloons launched by a Hamas-affiliated group over the border, and attempts by Palestinian protesters to throw explosives at the Israel-Gaza perimeter fence and soldiers stationed along it.

Dozens of Palestinians participated in the protests. The military said that the protesters "burned tires, hurled explosive devices and grenades toward the security fence and attempted to approach it."

Gaza's Health Ministry said Israeli gunfire at protesters wounded two Palestinians.

Israel holds Hamas, the Islamist militant group ruling the Gaza Strip, responsible for all attacks emanating from the Palestinian territory.

## Stripes

# SERVICE DIRECTORY

The Daily Guide to Navigating the European Business Market

Transportation

944

## VEHICLE SHIPPING SERVICES

- International Shipping
- Import & Export
- Inland trucking (U.S. & Europe)
- Door to door pick-up/delivery service

- Customs clearance
- All Risk Marine Insurance
- Auto Insurance (Germany only)

**For Further Information Please Contact**

<p><b>GERMANY</b> Phone: +49-(0)6134-2592730 Toll-free: 0800-CARSHIP (Germany only) E-Mail: info@transglobal-logistics.de WEB: www.transglobal-logistics.de</p>	<p><b>UNITED KINGDOM</b> +44-(0)1638-515714 enquiries@carshipuk.co.uk www.carshipuk.co.uk</p>	<p><b>USA</b> +1-972-602-1670 Ext. 1701 +1-800-264-8167 (US only) info@tgal.us www.tgal.us</p>
---	---	--

For 2nd POV Shipments - Offices / Agencies near Military Installations

**LOGISTICS EUROPE GMBH**

Transportation

944

Ship Cars and Containers to and from the USA

**WORLDWIDE SHIPPING AGENCIES**

**OPENING HOURS: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mon - Fri**  
0800-522-6274 or 800-WSA-SHIP (972-7447)

For a free rate request, please email: info@worldwide-ship.de  
Visit our Website: www.worldwide-ship.de

## Off Duty? Amuse Yourself!

Concert, events, TV, movies, music, video games, celebrity antics...

*Get entertained with...*

Are you in the picture?

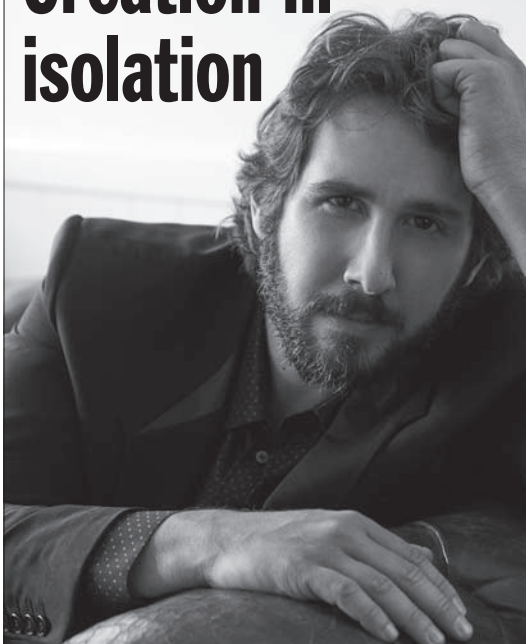
Reading  
Stars and Stripes  
gives you a better  
handle on issues  
that affect you most.

*No one covers the  
bases the way we do.*

STARS AND STRIPES

## FACES

# Creation in isolation



Singer Groban picking up new skills out of necessity while completing latest album, 'Harmony,' at home

BY MARK KENNEDY  
Associated Press

**I**t's the sound of silence that Josh Groban finds hardest to hear during the pandemic.

Quarantine hasn't stilled his voice or songwriting, but the give-and-get Groban usually enjoys from interacting with his audience is gone. He sings into a machine and hears nothing back.

"When the song is over, to have silence is so weird," he said. "The back and forth that I love so much, chatting with the audience, going into the crowd—I've had to fill in that gap in my head."

Groban is doing his best to fill the void with a new album due in November and three themed live streaming concerts, starting with a set featuring Broadway tunes in October.

"This has been a time to get creative in ways we never were expecting," he said. "One of my goals throughout all of this is to really not push away what I'm feeling but take it out from under the rug and use it for inspiration."

The album will be called "Harmony," which was half-finished when quarantine started. Though he hasn't frozen the song list yet, most will be covers of classics that fans have long asked for—like "The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face" and "She"—with a few originals throw in.

"For me, the songs evoke a feeling of hope, a feeling of togetherness, songs that just make me feel so good to sing," he said. "It's an album that for me was very therapeutic to sing."

The album will form the backbone for the second of Groban's concerts on Nov. 26. The third will be a Dec. 19 Christmas concert, a first for Groban.

"I think what people are missing right now is the connectivity in real time. It's the feeling that we're all going to commune and be part of something together," he said.

The concerts will piggyback on what he's learned about performing remotely. Post-virus, Groban eschews doing it pre-taped and has found a perfect space in Los Angeles to broadcast that has tremendous bandwidth. Tickets to individual concerts go on sale Aug. 25 and start at \$30.

**Singer Josh Groban is filling his quarantine time by preparing live streamed concerts and completing his latest album, "Harmony," to be released in November.**

Brian Bowen Smith

He promises intimate concerts "as if we were in someone's living room" with surprises. "We are going to try and one-up ourselves every time we do one of these."

He jokes that he prepares the same as for any other concert and has the same butterflies, even if some of the audience might be folding laundry while watching.

Groban has been nominated for a Grammy, Emmy and Tony. His last album was 2018's "Bridges," with original music, and he was on Broadway in 2017 for a run in "Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812." The pandemic hit after Groban's tour and interrupted his planned string of concerts at Radio City Music Hall.

Making an album of originals and touring with it "refilled my tank to be an interpreter. My tank kind of ebbs and flows. There are times where I really want to craft from scratch," he said. "And then there are times when I am reminded just how much I love just simply interpreting and how universal these classic songs can be."

Groban is pushing himself to work, even though the pandemic has taken away some of his discipline. He does his scales daily and sings regularly, though video games are a constant temptation.

The virus has forced Groban to work differently. Before the pandemic, he'd bring a bunch of ideas to a co-writer or a producer he had recorded on his iPhone and the two would flesh out a tune. Now he's alone.

"It's made me much more self-reliant and it's actually forced me to flex my muscles and my songwriting in my song production skills," he said. "The quarantine has made me much more open, vulnerable and playful in my writing approach."

One new song, "Your Face," Groban created on GarageBand software, then from his bedroom in Los Angeles, sent it to producer Tommee Profit in Nashville. The two have never met in real life.

Groban hadn't expected to be sparked creatively during a time of loss and isolation, but he has been. "A lot of things have been pouring out during a time frame where I actually wasn't expecting to do much writing," he said.

## Debicki to play Princess Diana in 'The Crown'

From wire reports

"The Crown" has found its Princess Diana.

Elizabeth Debicki will play the Princess of Wales in seasons five and six of "The Crown," the Netflix series announced Sunday.

Debicki will join a new cast from as Queen Elizabeth and Lesley Manville as Princess Margaret.

Emma Corrin is playing Diana on the drama's upcoming fourth season, but Debicki will take on the part for what's sure to be the character's most dramatic chapters. Seasons five and six are expected to be the show's final seasons. No premiere date of season four has yet been announced.

"Princess Diana's spirit, her words and her actions live in the hearts of so many," Debicki said on Twitter. "It is my true privilege and honor to be joining this masterful series, which has had me absolutely hooked from episode one."

Debicki, a 29-year-old Australian

actress, is a rising star after a breakout performance in Steve McQueen's "Widows." She also stars in Christopher Nolan's upcoming thriller "Tenet."

### Notaro replaces D'Elia in Snyder's 'Army of the Dead'

Comic Tig Notaro will replace disgraced comedian Chris D'Elia in Zach Snyder's Netflix movie "Army of the Dead."

The zombie movie, which follows a group of Las Vegas mercenaries tasked with pulling off a major heist in a quarantine zone, had already completed shooting and was scheduled for a 2021 release. But following accusations of sexual harassment against underage girls that surfaced in June, Netflix severed ties with D'Elia, pulling his upcoming unscripted prank show and removing him from "Army of the Dead."

The film will mix full reshoots of Notaro acting opposite a partner and solo shoots of her using a green screen and CGI.

### Civil rights activist Bridges writes children's book

Civil rights activist Ruby Bridges has written a children's book with a candid telling of the past and positive message for the future, inspired by the Black Lives Matter protests.

Delacorte Press, an imprint of Random House Children's Books, announced Aug. 14 that Bridges' "This Is Your Time" will come out Nov. 10. It arrives 60 years after she made history at age 6 by becoming the first Black student at an all-white elementary school in New Orleans. She was later honored by Norman Rockwell in the painting "The Problem We All Live With."

The book is an open letter from Bridges to young readers and includes images from the 1960s and from recent events.



Elizabeth Debicki

AP



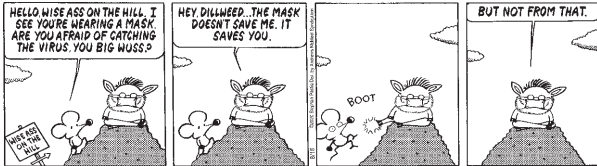
Frazz



Dilbert



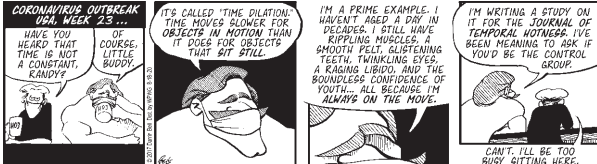
Pearls Before Swine



Non Sequitur



Candorville



Carpe Diem



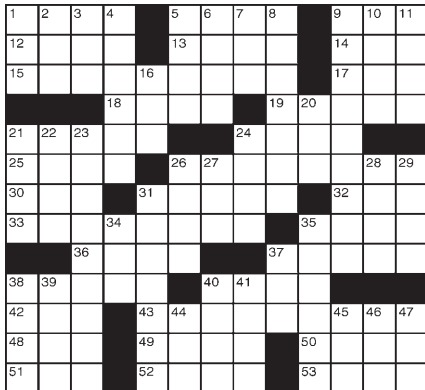
Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



## Eugene Sheffer Crossword



### ACROSS

- 1 Thick chunk
- 5 Artist Chagall
- 9 Gear tooth
- 12 Norway's capital
- 13 Latin love
- 14 Carnival city
- 15 Call attention to
- 17 Equal (Pref.)
- 18 Scratched (out)
- 19 Saw
- 21 Sculptor Henry
- 24 "Rent" role
- 25 — facto
- 26 Upright
- 30 In shape
- 31 LP players
- 32 Rink surface
- 33 Agitates
- 35 Old Testament book
- 36 Swiss river
- 37 Look of disdain
- 38 Chocolate source
- 40 "A Doll's House" heroine
- 42 Japanese sash
- 43 Highlight in print
- 48 Actress Taylor
- 49 Superhero's garment
- 50 Pairs
- 51 Packed away
- 52 Male deer
- 53 Chimney buildup

### DOWN

- 1 Soak (up)
- 2 Baton Rouge sch.
- 3 Cleric's garment
- 4 Ravel composition
- 5 Nutmeg spice
- 6 During
- 7 Cartoonist Chast
- 8 After-movie listings
- 9 Find fault with
- 10 French river
- 11 Suitable
- 16 Mamie's man
- 20 "— dreaming?"
- 21 Offend
- 22 Mayberry moppet
- 23 Shun
- 24 Hosp. scans
- 26 Tarzan's transport
- 27 Newt
- 28 Farm fraction
- 29 Tragic king
- 31 Brave deeds
- 34 Goat's cry
- 35 Puts into law
- 37 Lanka lead-in
- 38 Pop choice
- 39 Slightly
- 40 Wine valley
- 41 Couturier
- 44 Body art, for short
- 45 — Jima
- 46 Menagerie
- 47 Ballpark fig.

### Answer to Previous Puzzle



### 8-18

### CRYPTOQUIP

ML X LKMXX FBMQZA GNI

XSNSIU ZTZKG R MUURZ

YMAUXWZ GNI YXWZ, QN GNI

BXTZ X YNJW NJ GNIK SXFW?

Yesterday's Cryptquip: POPULAR ACTRESS WHO WAS IN LOTS OF COMMERCIALS FOR DENTAL CARE PRODUCTS: FARRAH FLOSS-IT.

Today's Cryptquip Clue: L equals F

## STARS AND STRIPES

Max D. Lederer Jr., Publisher  
Lt. Col. Marci Hoffman, Europe commander  
Lt. Col. Richard McClintic, Pacific commander  
Caroline E. Miller, Europe Business Operations  
Joshua M. Lashbrook, Pacific Chief of Staff

## EDITORIAL

Terry Leonard, Editor  
leonard.terry@stripes.com  
Robert H. Reid, Senior Managing Editor  
reid.robert@stripes.com  
Tina Croley, Managing Editor for Content  
croley.tina@stripes.com  
Sean Moores, Managing Editor for Presentation  
moores.sean@stripes.com  
Joe Gromelski, Managing Editor for Digital  
gromelski.joe@stripes.com

## BUREAU STAFF

## Europe/Bureau

Erin Slavik, Europe & Midwest Bureau Chief  
slavik.erin@stripes.com  
Brian Bowers, Assistant Managing Editor  
bowers.brian@stripes.com

## Pacific

Aaron Kidd, Pacific Bureau Chief  
kidd.aaron@stripes.com  
+81-42 552 2511 ext. 88380, DSN (315)227-7380

## Washington

Joseph Caccioli, Washington Bureau Chief  
caccioli.joseph@stripes.com  
(+1)202-886-0035  
Brian Bowers, Assistant Managing Editor  
bowers.brian@stripes.com

## CIRCULATION

Robert Reisman, Midwest Circulation Manager  
robert.reisman.na@gmail.com  
xscirculation@stripes.com  
DSN (314)583-9111

## Europe

Karen Lewis, Community Engagement Manager  
lewis.karen@stripes.com  
+49(0)631.3615.9090, DSN (314)583.9090

Pacific  
Marl Mori, Customer Help@stripes.com  
+81-3 6385.2511; DSN (315)227-7333

## CONTACT US

Washington  
tel: (+1)202.886.0003  
633 3rd St. NW, Suite 116, Washington, DC 20001-3050

## Reader letters

letters@stripes.com

## Additional contacts

stripes.com/contacts

## OMBDSMAN

## Ernie Gates

The Stars and Stripes ombudsman protects the free flow of news and information, reporting any attempts by the military or other authorities to undermine the newspaper's independence. The ombudsman also responds to concerns and questions from readers, and monitors coverage for fairness, accuracy, timeliness and balance. The ombudsman welcomes comments from readers, and can be contacted by email at ombudsman@stripes.com, or by phone at 202.886.0003.

Stars and Stripes (USPS 0471900) is published weekly, except Dec. 25 and Jan. 1 for 50 days Monday through Thursday and for 51 on Friday by Pacific Stars and Stripes, Unit 45002, APO 96301-0002. Periodicals postage paid at San Francisco, CA. Postmaster: Send address changes to Pacific Stars and Stripes, Unit 45002, APO 96301-0002.

This newspaper is authorized by the Department of Defense for members of the military services overseas. However, the contents of Stars and Stripes are unofficial, and are not to be considered as the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government. As a DOD newspaper, Stars and Stripes may be distributed through official channels and use appropriated funds for distribution to remote locations where overseas DOD personnel are located.

The appearance of advertising in this publication does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense or Stars and Stripes of the products or services advertised. Products or services advertised shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

© Stars and Stripes 2020

stripes.com

## OPINION

## 2020 vote is a choice between Trump – and Harris

By KATHLEEN PARKER  
Washington Post Writers Group

After months of carefully-choreographed suspense-building that produced more ennui than curiosity, Joe Biden finally made a decision: In November, voters will choose between Donald Trump and Kamala Harris.

Biden, the presumptive Democratic nominee, all but handed the presidency to his significantly younger and battle-ready running mate, at one time even saying the California senator is ready to lead the country.

Never mind that his own party found him insufficiently nominate-able when she was running against Biden and a throng of other candidates during the Democratic primary. Biden is painfully familiar with her courage — or at least her audacity — having served as her target during a debate last year when she came close to accusing him of once being a racist. Like millions of Americans in the 1970s, Biden had opposed government-mandated busing as a young senator from Delaware.

Harris, one of those children who was bused to school, took a big chance in attacking Biden, who throughout his public-service career has worked alongside African Americans, as well as women, in securing equal rights. It was a low blow that Biden has clearly forgiven. Or, perhaps, one that he has embraced in a gesture of restitution, if partly in the service of political advantage.

Or maybe it was just smart politics on both their parts. How, after all, can two old white guys, aka Republicans, compete with a stentorian senator holding hands

with a tough, smart, telegenic woman who represents a full-house of firsts? Not only is Harris the first woman of Indian and Jamaican descent to take her place at the top of the ballot, but she's also the first Black woman to be tapped for vice president.

And, therefore, president, or at least a better-than-even shot at the big job. If he wins, Biden, at 78, would be older than Ronald Reagan was when he left the presidency. You can do the math. If 78 seems odd for a grueling job known to turn younger men gray, imagine what it will feel like at the end of the first term, when he will be 82.

This is not a welcome exercise. Needless to say, no one wishes Biden ill. Nor is it satisfying to examine a candidate's age when being sensitive to age seems kinder. Besides, Biden deserves respect for his long service, whatever his missteps along the way, including his abysmal handling of the Clarence Thomas Supreme Court confirmation hearings in 1991, when he was chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee.

But, of course, age matters a great deal when the presidency is at stake. Even if Biden serves out his full term, it is unlikely that he will run again, which means Harris will run for president in 2024 and, though it is impossible to know for sure, likely emerge as that circumstance as the front-runner for Democrats.

That prospect tees up a second, even more-interesting prospect — the first Black and Indian-American vice president would be running against another Indian-American woman, Nikki Haley.

Two women running against each other for president? Can't you just feel the excitement from the National Organization for

Women?

Although some have speculated that Trump would ditch Mike Pence and grab Haley's comet if things become desperate enough, the clock is winding down for that drama. Haley's too smart to risk her own presidential ambitions by involving herself any further with the Trump brand. Instead, she'll continue making speeches — and money — and cast her own lot in 2024.

It's almost worth electing Biden to ensure that we get the Kamala-Nikki showdown.

But not quite. Biden tapped Harris because she was the least risky choice. In doing so, he may have written the script for his party for the next decade, though nothing is assured. Polls indicating that Trump trails Biden, er, Harris may not be telling us much. Fence-sitters who watched the primary debates and came away disliking Harris' attack on Biden — and recalling her attacks on now-Justice Brett Kavanaugh during his confirmation hearing — may be more comfortable with a known quantity than with Harris, whose policies would offend anyone to the right of Bernie Sanders.

Biden, though he has made some adjustments to accommodate the more-progressive wing of his party, isn't a natural radical in the way Harris appears to be. If he wants to win with Harris by his side, he'll need to bring her with him toward a less-radical, more-centrist position. And, if Harris wants to secure her presidential future, she would do well to pick her battles carefully going forward. Like or dislike Mike Pence as vice president, he's a decent man who won't enjoy fighting a woman. And even these days, most Americans won't like watching it.

## Do Washington State results buoy Trump's prospects?

By HENRY OLSEN

Special to The Washington Post

I have been dismissive of the idea that President Donald Trump has a "silent majority" of voters that the polls aren't picking up. The results from Washington state's Aug. 4 all-party primary are making me wonder whether I was wrong.

Washington's primary has a long record of forecasting the state's general election results. All candidates appear on one ballot regardless of party, but each can identify which party he or she prefers. (The top two finishers in the primary, regardless of party, face off in the general election.) Political pros add up the votes for candidates by party preference to come up with the district's overall partisan lean.

In the past decade, the difference between Democrats and Republicans in Washington's congressional primaries has been within five points or fewer of the partisan gap in the general election in 26 of 37 opportunities. Moreover, the party that led in the primary also won the seat in the general every time.

That track record is why the state's recent primary results are so important. With more than 99% of the votes counted, Republicans have a higher share of the total vote than they did in 2018 in eight of the state's 10 congressional districts. (Both seats where they have declined are in ultraprogressive Seattle.) That alone would suggest that Republicans in the state will fare better in November than they did in the midterms two years ago, even though the national polls suggest that they will not.

A deeper dive yields even more positive

news for the GOP. Republican candidates exceeded their 2018 vote share by 5 points or more in the five seats that don't include parts of Seattle's King County or its major suburb Snohomish County. That indicates that the GOP is gaining a lot of support over 2018 in the same kind of rural and small metro areas across the country that helped elect Trump in 2016 and allowed the party to flip Senate seats in Indiana, Missouri and North Dakota in 2018. If Washington's pattern applied nationwide, it would mean Trump would be much more competitive in swing states such as Wisconsin and North Carolina than the polls currently show.

This positive trend even applies to the state's potentially marginal seats. The Democratic Congressional Committee includes Carolyn Long, their nominee in Washington's 3rd District, on its "Red to Blue" list, which features the party's best candidates with a chance to flip a seat. But the Republican incumbent, Jaime Herrera Beutler, smashed Long in the primary, 56% to 40%.

The trend is even scarier for first-term Democratic Rep. Kim Schrier. In 2018, she flipped the historically Republican 8th District, which combines upper-income Seattle suburbs with rural counties on the other side of the Cascade Mountains. Her win was forecast by the Democrats' 50-to-47 lead in the 2018 primary. This year, the Republican candidates combined lead over two and other minor Democrats by 49 to 47. Recall that no party in the past decade has won a House seat in November that it lost in the primary. Schrier is listed as either safe or likely to win by the leading political prognosticators, but those ratings should surely change based on Washington's clear historical patterns.

Democrats cannot claim that the results are skewed by GOP-friendly turnout. About 2.5 million people voted in the Aug. 4 primary, shattering records for previous primaries. That represents more than 75% of the 3.3 million Washingtonians who voted in the 2016 presidential election, a record high. Even with a high turnout in November, a big majority of general-election voters will have already indicated their partisan preference.

These results do confirm some of the electoral news that has depressed national Republican leaders. GOP support in Seattle and its suburbs remains mired at the already low 2018 levels. That does not bode well for GOP efforts to regain many of the House seats they lost across the country in the midterms and further suggests that Democratic efforts to flip more suburban seats might succeed. Trump's reelection efforts also would be benefited by even a slight uptick in his suburban fortunes.

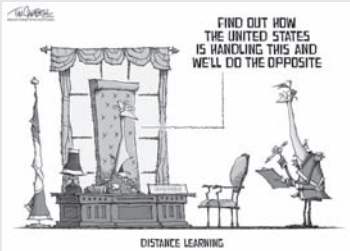
The Republican surge in rural and small-metro Washington, however, suggests that Trump and GOP House and Senate candidates across the country could surprise the pundits again. Nine of the House GOP's top Democratic target seats have at least substantial portions of voters who live in rural and small-town areas. Key Senate targets in Maine, Montana, North Carolina and Georgia have similar profiles. Trump could also be saved by an uptick in support in these areas.

One should never draw sweeping conclusions from a single data point. But the Washington primary results hint that something may be happening below the radar and the polls aren't picking it up.

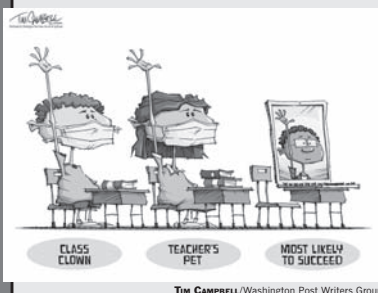
Henry Olsen is a senior fellow at the Ethics and Public Policy Center.

# Looking at the news

A weekly sampling of U.S. editorial cartoons



TIM CAMPBELL/Washington Post Writers Group



TIM CAMPBELL/Washington Post Writers Group



JACK OHMAN/Washington Post Writers Group



LISA BENSON/Washington Post Writers Group



WALT HANDELSMAN/Tribune Content Agency



# Sports Briefs

## Sports on AFN

Go to the American Forces Network website for the most up-to-date TV schedules. [myafn.net](http://myafn.net)

## Pro soccer

## MLS

EASTERN CONFERENCE									
	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA	Goal Diff	Rank	Points
Columbus	2	0	3	9	9	7	+2	1	9
Toronto FC	2	0	3	9	9	7	+2	2	9
Orlando City	2	0	3	9	9	7	+2	3	9
Philadelphia	2	1	2	8	7	7	0	4	7
Montreal	2	1	2	8	7	7	0	5	7
New York	2	1	2	8	7	7	0	6	7
New England	2	3	0	6	4	5	-1	7	6
Cincinnati	2	3	0	6	4	5	-1	8	6
Chicago	2	3	0	6	4	5	-1	9	6
Nashville SC	1	2	1	4	2	3	-1	10	4
San Jose	1	2	1	4	2	3	-1	11	4
New York City FC	0	5	0	0	2	6	-4	12	0
Inter Miami CF	0	5	0	0	2	6	-4	13	0

Western Conference

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA	Goal Diff	Rank	Points
Sporting KC	2	1	10	13	9	5	+4	1	13
Minnesota United	3	1	10	13	9	5	+4	2	13
Portland	3	1	10	13	9	5	+4	3	13
San Diego	2	1	10	13	9	5	+4	4	13
Seattle	2	1	10	13	9	5	+4	5	13
San Jose	2	2	8	10	7	4	+3	6	10
LA Galaxy	2	2	8	10	7	4	+3	7	10
Vancouver	2	3	0	6	7	10	-3	8	6
Real Salt Lake	1	2	5	4	3	4	0	9	4
FC Dallas	1	2	5	4	3	4	0	10	4
LA Galaxy	0	3	2	2	5	11	-6	11	2

Note: Three points for victory, one point for tie.

Wednesday, August 12

Nashville, 1 FC Dallas

Monday's game

Nashville, 0 FC Dallas, 0 tie

Tuesday's game

Vancouver at Toronto FC

Thursday's games

New York City FC at New York City at Columbus

LA Galaxy at New England

Friday's games

D.C. United at Minnesota FC at Minnesota FC at Houston

Saturday's games

LA Galaxy at Los Angeles FC at Atlanta

Real Salt Lake at Colorado

Sunday, Aug. 23

Seattle at Portland, Monday, August 24

Columbus at New York City

Tuesday, Aug. 25

New England at D.C. United

New York at Philadelphia

Atlanta at Chicago

Vancouver at Montreal

Houston at Sporting Kansas City

Sunday

Nashville, 0 FC Dallas 0

Nashville 0-0

Goalies—Nashville, Joe Willis, Elliott Pennell; FC Dallas, Jimmy Mauch, Kyle Zoller.

Yellow Cards—Jara, FC Dallas, 40th; McCarthy, Nashville, 70th.

## Pro basketball

## NBA

## EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	4	4	.500	0
Indiana	4	4	.500	0
Washington	3	3	.500	0
Atlanta	2	2	.500	0
New York	2	2	.500	0

## WESTERN CONFERENCE

	Pct	GB
Seattle	10	1
Minnesota	7	3
Los Angeles	7	3
Dallas	7	3

Saturday's games

Las Vegas 89, Washington 73

Minnesota 34, Indiana 73

Sunday's games

Dallas 95, Connecticut 72

Chicago 101, Atlanta 95

Monday's games

No games scheduled

Tuesday's games

Indiana at Connecticut

Washington at New York

Wednesday's games

Atlanta at Washington

Chicago at Minnesota

Phoenix at Los Angeles

Thursday's games

Seattle at New York

Connecticut at Las Vegas

## Golf

### Wyndham Championship

PGA Tour

Sunday

At Sedgwick Country Club

Greensboro, N.C.

Yardage: 7,111; Par: 70

Purse: \$4.4 Million

Final Round

Jim Herman, \$112,000 63-63-63-259-21

Billy Horschel, \$69,700 66-64-65-260-20

Si Woo Kim, \$32,400 65-64-67-262-18

Kevin Kuchar, \$31,400 66-64-68-272-18

Dod Riedman, \$31,400 66-64-68-272-18

W. Simpson, \$31,400 66-64-68-272-18

Zach Johnson, \$208,000 70-67-61-265-16

Chris O'Connell, \$208,000 62-64-69-265-16

Russell Hewley, \$168,000 68-66-63-264-16

Sungjae Im, \$168,000 69-64-65-264-16

D. McCarthy, \$168,000 67-64-65-264-16

Patrick Reed, \$168,000 65-68-64-264-16

Sam Burns, \$129,000 67-68-65-265-15

Tyler Dunham, \$129,000 68-64-66-265-15

Burt Burdette, \$69,700 66-64-67-266-14

Camron Davis, \$104,000 67-65-68-266-14

Mark Hubbard, \$104,000 67-65-67-266-14

Jason Kokrak, \$104,000 66-64-67-266-14

R. Oppenheimer, \$104,000 66-64-67-266-14

Chris Scarab, \$74,000 71-63-65-267-13

Dylan Fritts, \$74,000 69-65-66-267-13

Shane Lowery, \$64,320 68-65-67-268-12

Ryan McGeehan, \$74,000 68-65-67-268-12

Talor Gooch, \$54,080 65-68-67-269-11

Will Goss, \$46,720 67-68-67-270-10

Brian Harman, \$46,720 65-68-67-270-10

Tom Hoge, \$46,720 65-68-67-270-10

Seamus Power, \$46,720 65-68-67-270-10

Ryan Bremst, \$37,440 64-69-72-271-9

Wesley Bryan, \$37,440 64-69-72-271-9

Paul Casey, \$37,440 64-69-72-271-9

Adam Long, \$37,440 64-69-72-271-9

Roger Sloan, \$37,440 64-69-72-271-9

C. Bourne, \$29,120 71-64-69-272-8

R. Cabrera Bello, \$29,120 70-67-67-272-8

Adam Long, \$29,120 68-67-72-272-8

K. Ventura, \$29,120 69-68-72-272-8

Scott Brown, \$29,120 68-67-72-272-8

Scott Brown, \$29,120 68-67-72-272-8

Bo Hoag, \$20,416 66-68-72-273-7

Andrew Landry, \$20,416 66-68-72-273-7

Landry, \$20,416 66-68-72-273-7

J. Niemann, \$20,416 70-66-67-273-7

M. Schwab, \$20,416 67-69-69-273-7

Scott Stallings, \$20,416 67-69-67-273-7

Hadley, \$15,216 65-69-70-274-6

Kramer Hickox, \$15,216 69-67-73-274-6

Hadley, \$15,216 65-69-70-274-6

Patton Kizzire, \$15,216 67-67-73-274-6

Tom Lewis, \$15,216 67-68-73-274-6

Andrew Landry, \$15,216 67-68-73-274-6

Tom Lewis, \$15,216 67-68-73-274-6

Tom Lewis, \$15,216 67-68-73-274-6

Tom Lewis, \$15,216 67-68-73-274-6

Tom Lewis, \$15,216 67-68-73-274-6

Tom Lewis, \$15,216 67-68-73-274-6

Tom Lewis, \$15,216 67-68-73-274-6

Tom Lewis, \$15,216 67-68-73-274-6

Tom Lewis, \$15,216 67-68-73-274-6

Tom Lewis, \$15,216 67-68-73-274-6

Tom Lewis, \$15,216 67-68-73-274-6

Tom Lewis, \$15,216 67-68-73-274-6

Tom Lewis, \$15,216 67-68-73-274-6

Tom Lewis, \$15,216 67-68-73-274-6

Tom Lewis, \$15,216 67-68-73-274-6

Tom Lewis, \$15,216 67-68-73-274-6

Tom Lewis, \$15,216 67-68-73-274-6

Tom Lewis, \$15,216 67-68-73-274-6

Tom Lewis, \$15,216 67-68-73-274-6

Tom Lewis, \$15,216 67-68-73-274-6

Tom Lewis, \$15,216 67-68-73-274-6

Tom Lewis, \$15,216 67-68-73-274-6

Tom Lewis, \$15,216 67-68-73-274-6

Tom Lewis, \$15,216 67-68-73-274-6

Tom Lewis, \$15,216 67-68-73-274-6

Tom Lewis, \$15,216 67-68-73-274-6

Tom Lewis, \$15,216 67-68-73-274-6

Tom Lewis, \$15,216 67-68-73-274-6

Tom Lewis, \$15,216 67-68-73-274-6

Tom Lewis, \$15,216 67-68-73-274-6

## Bridgestone Senior

Champions Tour

Sunday

At Firestone CC

Akron, Ohio

Purse: \$2.0 Million

Final Round

Jerry Kelly, \$450,000 69-70-70-277-3

Scott Parel, \$264,000 71-71-67-270-1

M. Andujar, \$197,250 71-69-69-270-1

C. Montgomerie, \$197,250 72-69-68-270-1

Woody Austin, \$123,500 73-69-67-282-2

Ernie Els, \$123,500 73-69-67-282-2

Rod Rupp, \$123,500 68-75-66-281-3

Ernie Els, \$123,500 68-75-66-281-3

K. Sutherland, \$100,000 74-72-69-283-3

W. Davis, \$69,000 72-71-71-283-3

Dudley Hay, \$69,000 75-69-74-287-5

B. Langer, \$69,000 70-73-71-285-3

Mike Weir, \$69,000 72-70-71-285-3

Joe Durant, \$55,000 76-69-71-286-6

K. Karlsson, \$55,000 76-70-69-287-7

P. Broadhurst, \$48,000 69-76-68-287-7

W. Leach, \$48,000 70-76-69-287-7

G. Sauer, \$48,000 74-73-70-287-7

Scott Dunlap, \$38,250 72-71-69-288-8

W. Leach, \$38,250 70-74-68-288-8

Dicky Pride, \$38,250 71-71-72-288-8

D. Dawson, \$38,250 73-70-74-288-8

Duff Walden, \$30,750 76-71-72-289-9

Marco Dawson, \$30,750 73-70-74-289-9

Steve Stricker, \$30,750 68-73-75-289-9

Duff Walden, \$30,750 74-72-73-289-9

Ray Haas, \$27,750 70-72-71-291-11</

# AUTO RACING



TERRY RENA/AP

Chase Elliott celebrates after winning Sunday's NASCAR Cup Series road race in Daytona Beach, Fla.

## Three in a row on the road for Elliott

Associated Press

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — Chase Elliott was already NASCAR royalty. Now he's also the sport's road king.

Elliott won the Cup Series' first road course race at Daytona International Speedway on Sunday, holding off hard-charging Denny Hamlin following a late restart and notching his third consecutive victory away from ovals.

"I had a phenomenal car. I don't think I did anything special today," Elliott said.

NASCAR's most popular driver, the son of Hall of Famer Bill Elliott, also won on road courses at Charlotte and at Watkins Glen last year. He got a tougher challenge than many expected down the stretch in his latest roadie.

The 24-year-old driver had a 10-second lead with 10 laps to go and was pulling away when Kyle Busch blew a tire and brought out a caution that gave his Joe Gibbs Racing teammates, Hamlin and Martin Truex Jr., a chance.

But Elliott stayed out front on the final restart. Hamlin got to his rear bumper on the last lap, but couldn't do enough to mount any significant pressure.

"I kept him honest there," Hamlin said. "He had some good drive off (the corners) I couldn't

do anything with him."

Hamlin finished second, followed by Truex and seven-time series champion Jimmie Johnson.

Elliott, Hamlin and Truex had the cars to beat all afternoon. Truex's chances took a huge hit near the end of the second segment. He was caught speeding on pit road and forced to start the last stanza at the back of the pack. Hamlin also got stuck behind slower cars early in the final stage.

Making up that kind of ground on a 14-turn, 3.61-mile road course was a nearly impossible task, especially considering Elliott was turning mistake-free laps at the front of the field.

But that late caution gave both a shot, albeit an unlikely one given Elliott's road repertoire.

Another top contender, points leader Kevin Harvick, got turned around while braking into the "international horseshoe" and never recovered. Harvick finished 17th.

Kaz Grala was seventh in his Cup debut. Grala stepped into the No. 3 Chevrolet for Richard Childress Racing after Austin Dillon tested positive for COVID-19. Dillon needs two negative tests 24 hours apart before being cleared to return.

## Andretti on pole at Indy 500 for first time in 33 years

By JENNA FRYER  
Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Marco Andretti was 2 months old the last time his venerable racing family led the field to green at the Indianapolis 500. In this strange pandemic-plagued season, he ended a 33-year Andretti drought by winning the pole.

That damned "Andretti Curse" has haunted three generations of racers at Indianapolis Motor Speedway since 1969, when Mario Andretti won his only Indy 500. Now his grandson, with a lightning-fast and fearful four laps around the speedway, has cleared the first hurdle toward an elusive victory.

Mario Andretti was 1-for-29 in "The Greatest Spectacle in Racing," with just three career poles, his last in 1987. His son, Michael, never won a pole and his best finish in 16 tries was second in 1991. Jeff Andretti went 0-for-3. John Andretti was 0-for-12 and Marco currently is 0-for-14.

In his 15th attempt, he will attempt to end that stupid family curse once and for all.

The last of nine drivers Sunday to make a qualifying run, Marco Andretti logged a four-lap average of 231.068 mph to bump five-time IndyCar champion Scott Dixon from the pole. Andretti worried about the wind all morning and relied on advice his grandfather has long given the racers of the family to find the courage to hold it wide open for four laps around one of the most famous tracks in motorsports.

"The wind will scare you, but it will never crash you," Marco Andretti said, quoting his grandfather after his run.

He seemed to have tears in his eyes and his hands appeared to briefly shake as driver after driver congratulated him on pit lane. Then came a strong embrace with his father, owner of the six Andretti entries in the rescheduled Aug. 23 race.

"Obviously I was emotional. We put so much into it. This place means so much to us as a family," Marco Andretti said. "We've just been through so many ups and downs at this place. Obviously my



MICHAEL CONROY/AP

Marco Andretti won the pole for Sunday's Indianapolis 500, clearing the first hurdle toward an elusive victory at Indianapolis Motor Speedway, something that has eluded three generations of racers since family patriarch Mario Andretti's win there in 1969.

(late) cousin John is riding with me, my grandfather from home."

At his home in Pennsylvania, 80-year-old Mario Andretti said he was "never so nervous in my life" as he watched his grandson's run on television.

"I'm happier now than I've ever been," Andretti said on NBC Sports. "I jumped so high I hit my head on the ceiling and it's a 9-foot ceiling. He knows what he needs to do to get the best out of the car and minimize mistakes. He's seriously focused on winning the 500."

In a normal year, Marco Andretti would have received a thunderous ovation after his run. But the coronavirus pandemic forced new track owner Roger Penske to keep the gates closed for the first time in the 104-year history of the race.

"An Andretti on the pole at Indianapolis — too bad we couldn't hear the crowd explode," teammate Ryan Hunter-Reay said.

Team Penske's drivers, watching from inside the garage, were among the rivals who celebrated Andretti's moment.

The Andretti organization had four of the nine spots in Sunday's shootout for the pole and a shot at sweeping the front row. But the speed team showed Saturday dropped off for Hunter-Reay, James Hinchcliffe and Alexander Rossi, who was Dixon at 231.051 mph who jumped to the top of the board.

"Man, I didn't think we had a chance," Michael Andretti said.

Marco Andretti, meanwhile, has a full week to absorb his pole-winning run; the pressure will undoubtedly mount as he's now the favorite to win the Indy 500. His family had suffered tremendous heartbreak at this track, the curse unable to be broken in 51 years.

"I'm hoping the Andretti curse doesn't exist in August," he said.

**FULL THROTTLE**  
Experience the Thrill



Get riding with the exclusive benefits of the  
**H-D® DEPLOYED RECOGNITION PROGRAM**

Stop by your nearest  
MAS location for a  
**FREE MILITARY  
EXCLUSIVE POKER CHIP®**



**MAS**  
MILITARY AUTOSOURCE



Stop by an MAS on-base location or visit [militaryautosource.com/hd](http://militaryautosource.com/hd)

"While supplies last. See your Sales Representative for complete details. Dealers/Military Sales Corporation is an authorized contractor of the Exchange and MEXCOM. Military Autosource is an authorized distributor to sell and distribute Harley-Davidson® motorcycles. This advertisement does not express or imply endorsement by the Exchange, MEXCOM, USDG components, or the Federal Government and is not sponsored by them. (0827)

X  
EXCHANGE

NAVY  
STAR

★  
MILITARY  
STAR





## MLB

## Roundup

## Happ wins in return to Yankees rotation

Associated Press

NEW YORK — J.A. Happ won in his return to New York's rotation after being skipped a turn, and the Yankees beat the Red Sox 4-2 for their ninth straight win over Boston in their best spurt against their rival in nearly 70 years.

Hours after second baseman DJ LeMahieu joined Aaron Judge and Giancarlo Stanton on the injured list, Mike Ford drove in three runs for New York. Happ (1-1) allowed one run in 5½ innings in his first home start this year, giving up Kevin Pillar's homer in the third.

Boston has been outscored 67-31 during a seven-game skid, dropping to an AL-worst 6-16.

**Indians 8, Tigers 5:** Frammil Reyes homered twice, and the Indians beat the host Tigers for the 20th straight time, nearing the major league record for most consecutive wins by a team over a single opponent.

Baltimore holds the mark with 23 straight wins over Kansas City in 1969-70. The Indians can match the record when they host Detroit in a three-game series next weekend.

**Athletics 15, Giants 3:** Stephen Piscotty, Chad Pinder and Marcus Semien homered during visiting Oakland's nine-run fifth inning, powering the A's to their fourth straight win.

Piscotty matched his career high with five RBIs as Oakland, with the best record in the AL, won for the 13th time in 15 games.

**Dodgers 8, Angels 3:** Keibert Ruiz homered in his first major league at-bat, Corey Seager hit a three-run homer and the visiting Dodgers swept the Freeway Series.

The Dodgers swept a three-game series at Angel Stadium for the first time since interleague play began in 1997, although the Angels still hold a 70-57 overall

lead in the rivalry.

**Nationals 6, Orioles 5:** Max Scherzer struck out 10 over seven innings, and visiting Washington went ahead to stay with an unearned run in the eighth.

With the victory, the defending World Series champion Nationals won the three-game series and climbed out of last place in the NL East at 8-11.

**Rays 3-7, Blue Jays 2-5:** At Buffalo, N.Y., Willy Adames hit a two-run homer in the eighth inning, and Tampa Bay, helped by a huge Toronto error, earned their second win of the day against the Blue Jays.

Earlier, in the finish of a game suspended Saturday night because of rain, Brandon Lowe hit a solo shot off Jordan Romano (1-1) in the ninth to lift the Rays to the victory. Aaron Loup (3-0) got the win in both games.

**Braves 4, Marlins 0:** Nick Markakis drove in three runs for visiting Atlanta, and five pitchers combined on a two-hitter.

**Phillies 6, Mets 2:** Andrew McCutchen entered as a midgame replacement and hit a two-run homer to help host Philadelphia complete a three-game sweep.

**Brewers 6, Cubs 5:** Keston Hiura and Orlando Arcia homered, and visiting Milwaukee earned its third straight win against the NL Central leaders.

**Astros 3, Mariners 2:** Kyle Tucker hit a game-ending homer in the ninth inning, lifting host Houston to its fourth straight win.

**Rockies 10, Rangers 6:** At Denver, Colorado's Jon Gray struck out seven over a season-high seven solid innings and was backed by a 14-hit attack.

**Twins 4, Royals 2:** Max Kepler hit a two-run homer to support another strong start by host Minnesota's Randy Dobnak.

**Diamondbacks 5, Padres 4:** At Phoenix, Eduardo Escobar hit a three-run homer in the eighth inning, and Arizona completed the three-game sweep.



CHARLES REX ARBOGAST/AP

The White Sox's Yoan Moncada watches his three-run home run off St. Louis Cardinals relief pitcher Roel Ramirez during the fifth inning Sunday in Chicago. The White Sox won 7-2.

## White Sox blast Ramirez, Cards

Chicago hits 4 straight home runs against debuting St. Louis reliever

Associated Press

CHICAGO — St. Louis Cardinals reliever Roel Ramirez set a record in his debut — just not the kind any pitcher wants.

The Chicago White Sox tied a major league mark with four consecutive home runs, all against Ramirez, and went on to beat the Cardinals 7-2 on Sunday.

Ramirez is the first pitcher to allow four straight homers in his debut. Yoan Moncada, Yasmani Grandal, Jose Abreu and Eloy Jimenez connected during a six-run fifth inning.

"Clearly, it gets you on your heels," Cardinals manager Mike Shildt said. "One of the reasons we liked Roel in spring training ... was the fact that he was not afraid to go after guys. He'd get after it."

Ramirez took the mound in the fifth with Chicago leading 1-0. He struck out Luis Robert to start, but things went south quickly. After two singles, a caught stealing and a walk, Moncada smacked a three-run homer to right.

Grandal followed with another drive into the right-field seats, and then Abreu and Jimenez each homered to left.

"It feels good every time that you hit a home run," Moncada said through an interpreter. "But it feels better when you're a part of history. ... It's definitely something special for all of us. I am very happy for it."

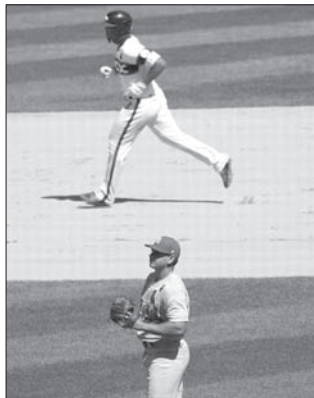
Shildt replaced Ramirez with the debuting Seth Elledge, and he struck out Edwin Encarnacion on three straight pitches to end the inning.

Ramirez is among the players promoted by the Cardinals following a COVID-19 outbreak that stalled St. Louis' season for 2½ weeks. The club returned to action Saturday with a doubleheader sweep over Chicago.

Ramirez, a 25-year-old right-hander, split last season between Double-A and Triple-A.

"He got his first punchout today in the big leagues, which is pretty cool," Shildt said. "I have every confidence he's gonna go out and be aggressive when he gets an opportunity again."

It was the 10th time in major league history a team hit four straight homers. The only other time the White Sox did it was on Aug. 14, 2008 against Kansas City, when Jim Thome, Paul Konerko, Alex-



CHARLES REX ARBOGAST/AP

St. Louis Cardinals relief pitcher Roel Ramirez, bottom, returns to the mound after giving up a home run to Chicago White Sox's Jose Abreu, top. It was the third of a record four consecutive homers given up by Ramirez in his debut.

ei Ramirez and Juan Uribe connected.

For Chicago, it was a big improvement after combining for just six hits in the doubleheader.

"It was a big inning, a huge inning," White Sox manager Rick Renteria said. "We needed something like that to kind of spark us. Albeit just one game, but certainly signs of the things that are capable of being done."

**Keuchel sharp:** The White Sox got another solid start from Dallas Keuchel (3-2) and won for just the third time in 11 home games.

Keuchel gave up two runs and four hits in 5½ innings. The 2015 AL Cy Young Award winner exited after Matt Carpenter hit a two-run single.

St. Louis' Dakota Hudson (0-2) held the White Sox to a run and two hits over four innings in his first start since July 26.



KATHY WILLEMS/AP

New York starting pitcher J.A. Happ allowed one run in 5½ innings in his first home start this year, and the host Yankees beat the Red Sox 4-2 Sunday for their ninth straight win over Boston.

# NBA PLAYOFFS/NFL

## Pursuit: Postseason storylines to watch

### FROM BACK PAGE

the Toronto Raptors split \$5.6 million from the playoff pool.

**3 Six-pack?** Division championships in the NBA don't seem to mean much anymore.

Well, maybe they do. If history holds, one of these six teams — Toronto, Milwaukee, Miami, Denver, Houston or the Los Angeles Lakers — will win the NBA title this season.

Every finals team since 2012 has done so after winning a division title. The last team not to win its division but make the finals was Dallas, which won the title in 2011. And the last time an NBA Finals had no two-division-winning teams was 2007, when San Antonio topped Cleveland.

**4 Stat watch:** A few numbers to watch during the playoffs.

■ LeBron James is 89 points away from 7,000 career postseason points. Nobody else has even reached 6,000; Michael Jordan had 5,987. James nearly has more play-off points than any other three players entering these playoffs do in their postseason careers combined. James Harden (2,654), Russell Westbrook (2,489) and Kawhi Leonard (2,164) have 7,307 between them.

■ If the Lakers make a deep run, James could also take over the No. 1 spot on the post-season games played list. He's been in 239, behind Derek Fisher (259), Tim Duncan (251) and Robert Horry (244). James is already the NBA career playoff leader in minutes, field goals made and attempted, free throws made and steals.

■ Boston's Gordon Hayward has made 95.5% of his playoff free throws (106-for-111). Nobody with at least 100 career postseason makes from the line has ever been better; Mark Price is No. 2 at 94.4%.

**5 Losing records:** For the first time since 2015, teams with a losing record made the playoffs.

And for the first time since 1997, three teams below the .500 mark found their way into the postseason. Portland, Brooklyn and Orlando all finished the regular season with losing records — yet are still alive in the race for the NBA title.

Boston and Brooklyn were the last teams to get to the playoffs with losing marks, both getting there in 2015. Minnesota, Phoenix and the Los Angeles Clippers were the three teams that did it in 1987.

The last time there were more than three sub-.500 teams in the playoffs was 1986, when six made the field.

No team with a losing record has won a playoff series since 1987, when the Seattle SuperSonics won two rounds to reach the West Finals. Since that season, sub-.500 teams are 0-26 in first-round matchups.

**6 The refs:** Aaron Smith and Dedric Taylor will be part of the playoff referee staff for the first time, the lone postseason rookies on the 40-person roster for the first round. Smith is one of four alternates, and Taylor is one of the 36 referees chosen to call games.

Smith is in his fourth NBA season and worked the G League finals in 2016 and 2017. Taylor is in his sixth NBA season, eventually getting there after spending 13 years driving for UPS and working for the parks and recreation department in North Miami Beach, Fla.

Scott Foster will be the most experienced referee in the playoffs, working the postseason for the 21st time. He's one of six referees on this season's postseason roster with more than 100 games worked, with 188 — the others being Tony Brothers (140), James Capers (135), Marc Davis (132), Ed Malloy (111) and Bill Kennedy (104).

**7 Power of 23:** If the Toronto Raptors win this NBA title, there can be no doubt that the team's magic number this season would be 23.

Or maybe 23-9, to be more specific.



ASHLEY LANDIS/AP

**The Los Angeles Lakers' LeBron James is 89 points away from 7,000 career postseason points, by far the most in league history.**

When the season was stopped on March 11 because of the pandemic, the Raptors were exactly 23-9 at home and 23-9 on the road.

At Disney in the seeding games, they went 7-1. They went 16-8 last season in the playoffs, and if they do exactly that this year — yes, they would have gone exactly 23-9 at Disney this year as well.

**8 Game 1 success:** Inevitably, some version of the stat that says Game 1 winners almost always go on to win a best-of-seven series will come up after the opening game of every matchup. And it is true: Since the 16-team playoff format was adopted, teams with a 1-0 series lead ultimately win 78.3% of the time.

But last year showed that 1-0 deficits don't doom a club, either.

There were six teams last season that lost Game 1 but went on to win a series — matching the most of any year in the 16-team format.

The six teams that rallied were Toronto (East finals vs. Milwaukee and first round vs. Orlando), Milwaukee (East semifinals vs. Boston), Portland (West semifinals vs. Denver), Philadelphia (East first round vs. Brooklyn) and Denver (West first round vs. San Antonio).

**9 No home edge:** Since 1984, home teams have won 411 of 540 playoff games played — 76.1%. Of course, much of that can be attributed to having 20,000 or so screaming fans cheering teams on in those games.

Will it matter without fans in the bubble? Time will tell.

During the restart, teams went 49-39 in matchups designated as "home" games — a 55.7% clip in those contests where they got to see their logos on the video boards and hear their usual pregame music. And that is close to what teams were doing outside the bubble this season, when home teams prevailed 55.1% of the time.

**10 Family matters:** Callie Rivers Curry cannot lose in the first round of the Western Conference playoffs. Either her father is going to the second round, or her husband is.

The Los Angeles Clippers play Dallas in the first round. Callie's father is Clippers coach Doc Rivers. Her husband is Mavericks guard Seth Curry.

"I don't think she's rooting for me," Doc Rivers said, "but I'm not so sure."

## Scoreboard

NBA Playoffs			
All games in Orlando, Fla.			
FIRST ROUND			
(Best-of-7; w-if necessary)			
Eastern Conference			
Milwaukee vs. Orlando			
Tuesday:	Milwaukee vs. Orlando		
Thursday:	Milwaukee vs. Orlando		
Saturday:	Milwaukee vs. Orlando		
Monday:	Milwaukee vs. Orlando		
x-Wednesday:	Milwaukee vs. Orlando		
x-Friday:	Milwaukee vs. Orlando		
x-Sunday:	Milwaukee vs. Orlando		
Toronto vs. Brooklyn			
Monday:	Toronto vs. Brooklyn		
Wednesday:	Toronto vs. Brooklyn		
Friday:	Toronto vs. Brooklyn		
Sunday:	Toronto vs. Brooklyn		
x-Tuesday:	Toronto vs. Brooklyn		
x-Thursday:	Toronto vs. Brooklyn		
x-Saturday:	Toronto vs. Brooklyn		
Boston vs. Philadelphia			
Monday:	Boston vs. Philadelphia		
Wednesday:	Boston vs. Philadelphia		
Friday:	Boston vs. Philadelphia		
Sunday:	Boston vs. Philadelphia		
x-Tuesday:	Boston vs. Philadelphia		
x-Thursday:	Boston vs. Philadelphia		
x-Saturday:	Boston vs. Philadelphia		
Miami vs. Indiana			
Tuesday:	Miami vs. Indiana		
Thursday:	Miami vs. Indiana		
Saturday:	Miami vs. Indiana		
Monday:	Miami vs. Indiana		
x-Wednesday:	Miami vs. Indiana		
x-Friday:	Miami vs. Indiana		
x-Sunday:	Miami vs. Indiana		
Western Conference			
L.A. Lakers vs. Portland			
Tuesday:	L.A. Lakers vs. Portland		
Thursday:	L.A. Lakers vs. Portland		
Saturday:	L.A. Lakers vs. Portland		
Monday:	L.A. Lakers vs. Portland		
x-Wednesday:	L.A. Lakers vs. Portland		
x-Friday:	L.A. Lakers vs. Portland		
x-Sunday:	L.A. Lakers vs. Portland		
L.A. Clippers vs. Dallas			
Monday:	L.A. Clippers vs. Dallas		
Wednesday:	L.A. Clippers vs. Dallas		
Friday:	L.A. Clippers vs. Dallas		
Sunday:	L.A. Clippers vs. Dallas		
x-Tuesday:	L.A. Clippers vs. Dallas		
x-Thursday:	L.A. Clippers vs. Dallas		
x-Saturday:	L.A. Clippers vs. Dallas		
Denver vs. Utah			
Monday:	Denver vs. Utah		
Wednesday:	Denver vs. Utah		
Friday:	Denver vs. Utah		
Sunday:	Denver vs. Utah		
x-Tuesday:	Denver vs. Utah		
x-Thursday:	Denver vs. Utah		
x-Saturday:	Denver vs. Utah		
Oklahoma City vs. Houston			
Tuesday:	Oklahoma City vs. Houston		
Thursday:	Oklahoma City vs. Houston		
Saturday:	Oklahoma City vs. Houston		
Monday:	Oklahoma City vs. Houston		
x-Wednesday:	Oklahoma City vs. Houston		
x-Friday:	Oklahoma City vs. Houston		
x-Sunday:	Oklahoma City vs. Houston		
Regular season leaders			
Scoring			
Harden, HOU	61	603	619
Beal, WAS	57	593	583
Antoniou, MIL	61	248	129
Young, ATL	60	546	481
Lillard, POR	58	531	387
Donovan, BOS	61	512	289
Westbrook, OKC	53	568	269
Leonard, LAC	51	476	313
Davis, MEM	58	385	147
Booker, PHX	62	544	405
James, LAL	60	586	239
LaVine, CHI	60	538	268
Ingram, NOP	56	469	283
Mitchell, UTA	63	560	249
Sabonis, IND	61	503	385
Tatum, BOS	59	429	230
McCollum, POR	62	549	123
Siakam, SAS	61	503	385
Wiggins, GSW	54	437	107
Walker, BOS	50	350	195
Rebounds			
OFF DEF TOT			
Drummond, CLE	57	250	614
Whitehead, POR	61	248	496
Antoniou, MIL	57	130	703
Robert, UTA	62	211	693
Sabonis, IND	61	393	132
Valanciunas, MEM	62	190	506
Davis, MEM	61	385	147
Kyrie, CLE	65	159	618
Jokic, DEN	65	158	508
Thompson, CLE	62	235	571
Assists			
AST AVG			
James, LAL	10.6		
Young, ATL	60	560	9.3
Rubio, PHX	57	507	8.9
Davis, MEM	54	470	8.7
Simmons, PHI	54	442	8.2
Lillard, POR	58	463	7.8
Lowry, TOR	57	479	7.7
Graham, CHA	63	471	7.5
Harden, HOU	61	450	7.4
Brogdon, IND	48	343	7.1

## Washington hires Smith as president

### First Black person to hold position in league history

By STEPHEN WHYNO  
Associated Press

The Washington Football Team on Monday hired Jason Wright as team president, making him the first Black person to hold that position in NFL history.

At 38, he becomes the NFL's youngest team president and will run the organization's business operations with coach Ron Rivera maintaining control over football decisions.

Washington's hiring of Wright drew a commendation from the Fritz Pollard Alliance, which seeks to promote diversity in NFL. Chairman Harry Carson and executive director Rod Graves called it a "historic event."

"The selection is the result of an inclusive process that recognizes the talents that people of color can offer," they said. "We hope that it signifies a true change for the manner in which leadership is chosen in the NFL."

Wright, a running back for seven years with Atlanta, Cleveland and Arizona, was a captain for the Cardinals and their NFLPA representative during labor negotiations in 2010-11.

"If I could custom design a leader for this important time in our history, it would be Jason," owner Dan Snyder said. "His experience as a former player, coupled with his business acumen, gives him a perspective that is unrivaled in the league."

In other NFL news: ■ Quarterback Alex Smith was activated off the physically unable to perform list by Washington's NFL team Sunday, the latest step in a remarkable recovery after his right leg was broken in two places during a game nearly two years ago.

It could make for an interesting dynamic at QB, where Washington also has Dwayne Haskins, its 2019 first-round draft pick, and free-agent addition Kyle Allen.

The 36-year-old Smith is signed through 2022. He hasn't played since November 2018, when his right fibula and tibia broke when Smith was hit during a loss to the Houston Texans.

■ Jacksonville Jaguars defensive lineman Rodney Gunter is stepping away from football because of an enlarged artery.

Gunter, who had been placed on the team's non-football injury list at the start of training camp, dropped the news in a statement Sunday.

Gunter signed a three-year, \$18 million contract with Jacksonville in free agency, giving the team a potential replacement for five-time Pro Bowler Calais Campbell.

The 6-foot-5, 305-pound Gunter totaled 126 tackles, 11 sacks and two forced fumbles in five years with Arizona. He played in 13 games last season, all starts, and finished with 31 tackles and three sacks. He played on a one-year deal worth \$1.75 million in 2019.

NHL

## Scoreboard

## Stanley Cup playoffs

## FIRST ROUND

Best-of-seven; x-if necessary

## EASTERN CONFERENCE

## At Toronto

(1)Philadelphia 3, (5)Montreal 1

Philadelphia 2, Montreal 1

Montreal 5, Philadelphia 0

Sunday: Philadelphia 1, Montreal 0

Tuesday, Aug. 18: Game 4 (AFN-

Sports2, 7 p.m. Tuesday CET; 4 a.m.

Wednesday JKT)

Wednesday, Aug. 19: Game 5

x-Friday, Aug. 21: Game 6

x-Saturday, Aug. 22: Game 7

(2)Tampa Bay 2, (7)Columbus 1

Tampa Bay 3, Columbus 2

Columbus 3, Tampa Bay 1

Saturday: Tampa Bay 3, Columbus 2

Monday: Game 4

x-Wednesday, Aug. 19: Game 5

x-Friday, Aug. 21: Game 6

x-Saturday, Aug. 22: Game 7

(3)N.Y. Islanders 3, (3)Washington 0

N.Y. Islanders 4, Washington 2

Sunday: N.Y. Islanders 4, Washington 1

OT

Tuesday, Aug. 18: Game 4 (AFN-

Sports2, 7 a.m. Wednesday CET; 9 a.m.

Wednesday JKT)

x-Thursday, Aug. 20: Game 5

x-Saturday, Aug. 22: Game 6

x-Sunday, Aug. 23: Game 7

(4)Boston 2, (5)Carolina 1

Boston 4, Carolina 3

OT

(4)Boston 2, (5)Carolina 1

Boston 4, Carolina 3

OT

Monday: Game 4

x-Thursday, Aug. 19: Game 5

x-Saturday, Aug. 22: Game 6

x-Sunday, Aug. 23: Game 7

WESTERN CONFERENCE

## FIRST ROUND

At Edmonton, Alberta

(1)Las Vegas 3, (6)Chicago 1

Vegas 4, Chicago 3

OT

Vegas 2, Chicago 1

Sunday: Chicago 3, Las Vegas 1

x-Tuesday, Aug. 18: Game 5 (AFN-

Sports2, 4:30 a.m. Wednesday CET; 11:30

a.m. Wednesday JKT)

x-Thursday, Aug. 20: Game 6

x-Saturday, Aug. 22: Game 7

(2)Colorado 2, (7)Arizona 1

Colorado 3, Arizona 0

OT

Colorado 3, Arizona 0

OT

Monday: Game 4

Wednesday, Aug. 19: Game 5

x-Friday, Aug. 21: Game 6

x-Saturday, Aug. 22: Game 7

(3)Dallas 2, (6)Calgary 2

Dallas 3, Calgary 2

Calgary 2, Dallas 0

Thursday, Aug. 20: Game 5

x-Tuesday, Aug. 18: Game 5 (AFN-

Sports2, 11:30 p.m. Tuesday CET; 6:30

a.m. Wednesday JKT)

x-Thursday, Aug. 20: Game 6

x-Saturday, Aug. 22: Game 7

(5)Vancouver 2, (4)St. Louis 1

Vancouver 4, St. Louis 3

OT

Sunday: St. Louis 3, Vancouver 2

OT

Monday: Game 4

Wednesday, Aug. 19: Game 5

x-Friday, Aug. 21: Game 6

x-Saturday, Aug. 22: Game 7

x-Sunday, Aug. 23: Game 7

x-Monday, Aug. 24: Game 7

x-Tuesday, Aug. 25: Game 7

x-Wednesday, Aug. 26: Game 7

x-Thursday, Aug. 27: Game 7

x-Friday, Aug. 28: Game 7

x-Saturday, Aug. 29: Game 7

x-Sunday, Aug. 30: Game 7

x-Monday, Aug. 31: Game 7

x-Tuesday, Sept. 1: Game 7

x-Wednesday, Sept. 2: Game 7

x-Thursday, Sept. 3: Game 7

x-Friday, Sept. 4: Game 7

x-Saturday, Sept. 5: Game 7

x-Sunday, Sept. 6: Game 7

x-Monday, Sept. 7: Game 7

x-Tuesday, Sept. 8: Game 7

x-Wednesday, Sept. 9: Game 7

x-Thursday, Sept. 10: Game 7

x-Friday, Sept. 11: Game 7

x-Saturday, Sept. 12: Game 7

x-Sunday, Sept. 13: Game 7

x-Monday, Sept. 14: Game 7

x-Tuesday, Sept. 15: Game 7

x-Wednesday, Sept. 16: Game 7

x-Thursday, Sept. 17: Game 7

x-Friday, Sept. 18: Game 7

x-Saturday, Sept. 19: Game 7

x-Sunday, Sept. 20: Game 7

x-Monday, Sept. 21: Game 7

x-Tuesday, Sept. 22: Game 7

x-Wednesday, Sept. 23: Game 7

x-Thursday, Sept. 24: Game 7

x-Friday, Sept. 25: Game 7

x-Saturday, Sept. 26: Game 7

x-Sunday, Sept. 27: Game 7

x-Monday, Sept. 28: Game 7

x-Tuesday, Sept. 29: Game 7

x-Wednesday, Sept. 30: Game 7

x-Thursday, Oct. 1: Game 7

x-Friday, Oct. 2: Game 7

x-Saturday, Oct. 3: Game 7

x-Sunday, Oct. 4: Game 7

x-Monday, Oct. 5: Game 7

x-Tuesday, Oct. 6: Game 7

x-Wednesday, Oct. 7: Game 7

x-Thursday, Oct. 8: Game 7

x-Friday, Oct. 9: Game 7

x-Saturday, Oct. 10: Game 7

x-Sunday, Oct. 11: Game 7

x-Monday, Oct. 12: Game 7

x-Tuesday, Oct. 13: Game 7

x-Wednesday, Oct. 14: Game 7

x-Thursday, Oct. 15: Game 7

x-Friday, Oct. 16: Game 7

x-Saturday, Oct. 17: Game 7

x-Sunday, Oct. 18: Game 7

x-Monday, Oct. 19: Game 7

x-Tuesday, Oct. 20: Game 7

x-Wednesday, Oct. 21: Game 7

x-Thursday, Oct. 22: Game 7

x-Friday, Oct. 23: Game 7

x-Saturday, Oct. 24: Game 7

x-Sunday, Oct. 25: Game 7

x-Monday, Oct. 26: Game 7

x-Tuesday, Oct. 27: Game 7

x-Wednesday, Oct. 28: Game 7

x-Thursday, Oct. 29: Game 7

x-Friday, Oct. 30: Game 7

x-Saturday, Oct. 31: Game 7

x-Sunday, Nov. 1: Game 7

x-Monday, Nov. 2: Game 7

x-Tuesday, Nov. 3: Game 7

x-Wednesday, Nov. 4: Game 7

x-Thursday, Nov. 5: Game 7

x-Friday, Nov. 6: Game 7

x-Saturday, Nov. 7: Game 7

x-Sunday, Nov. 8: Game 7

x-Monday, Nov. 9: Game 7

x-Tuesday, Nov. 10: Game 7

x-Wednesday, Nov. 11: Game 7

x-Thursday, Nov. 12: Game 7

x-Friday, Nov. 13: Game 7

x-Saturday, Nov. 14: Game 7

x-Sunday, Nov. 15: Game 7

x-Monday, Nov. 16: Game 7

x-Tuesday, Nov. 17: Game 7

x-Wednesday, Nov. 18: Game 7

x-Thursday, Nov. 19: Game 7

x-Friday, Nov. 20: Game 7

x-Saturday, Nov. 21: Game 7

x-Sunday, Nov. 22: Game 7

x-Monday, Nov. 23: Game 7

x-Tuesday, Nov. 24: Game 7

x-Wednesday, Nov. 25: Game 7

x-Thursday, Nov. 26: Game 7

x-Friday, Nov. 27: Game 7

x-Saturday, Nov. 28: Game 7

x-Sunday, Nov. 29: Game 7

x-Monday, Nov. 30: Game 7

x-Tuesday, Dec. 1: Game 7

x-Wednesday, Dec. 2: Game 7

x-Thursday, Dec. 3: Game 7

x-Friday, Dec. 4: Game 7

x-Saturday, Dec. 5: Game 7

x-Sunday, Dec. 6: Game 7

x-Monday, Dec. 7: Game 7

x-Tuesday, Dec. 8: Game 7

x-Wednesday, Dec. 9: Game 7

x-Thursday, Dec. 10: Game 7

x-Friday, Dec. 11: Game 7

x-Saturday, Dec. 12: Game 7

x-Sunday, Dec. 13: Game 7

x-Monday, Dec. 14: Game 7

x-Tuesday, Dec. 15: Game 7

x-Wednesday, Dec. 16: Game 7

x-Thursday, Dec. 17: Game 7

x-Friday, Dec. 18: Game 7

x-Saturday, Dec. 19: Game 7

x-Sunday, Dec. 20: Game 7

x-Monday, Dec. 21: Game 7

x-Tuesday, Dec. 22: Game 7

x-Wednesday, Dec. 23: Game 7

x-Thursday, Dec. 24: Game 7

x-Friday, Dec. 25: Game 7

x-Saturday, Dec. 26: Game 7

x-Sunday, Dec. 27: Game 7

x-Monday, Dec. 28: Game 7

x-Tuesday, Dec. 29: Game 7

x-Wednesday, Dec. 30: Game 7

x-Thursday, Dec. 31: Game 7

x-Friday, Jan. 1: Game 7

x-Saturday, Jan. 2: Game 7

x-Sunday, Jan. 3: Game 7

x-Monday, Jan. 4: Game 7

x-Tuesday, Jan. 5: Game 7

x-Wednesday, Jan. 6: Game 7

x-Thursday, Jan. 7: Game 7

x-Friday, Jan. 8: Game 7

x-Saturday, Jan. 9: Game 7

x-Sunday, Jan. 10: Game 7

x-Monday, Jan. 11: Game 7

x-Tuesday, Jan. 12: Game 7

x-Wednesday, Jan. 13: Game 7

x-Thursday, Jan. 14: Game 7

x-Friday, Jan. 15: Game 7

x-Saturday, Jan. 16: Game 7

x-Sunday, Jan. 17: Game 7

x-Monday, Jan. 18: Game 7

x-Tuesday, Jan. 19: Game 7

x-Wednesday, Jan. 20: Game 7

x-Thursday, Jan. 21: Game 7

x-Friday, Jan. 22: Game 7

x-Saturday, Jan. 23: Game 7

x-Sunday, Jan. 24: Game 7

x-Monday, Jan. 25: Game 7

x-Tuesday, Jan. 26: Game 7

x-Wednesday, Jan. 27: Game 7

x-Thursday, Jan. 28: Game 7

x-Friday, Jan. 29: Game 7

x-Saturday, Jan. 30: Game 7

x-Sunday, Jan. 31: Game 7

x-Monday, Feb. 1: Game 7

x-Tuesday, Feb. 2: Game 7

x-Wednesday, Feb. 3: Game 7

x-Thursday, Feb. 4: Game 7

x-Friday, Feb. 5: Game 7

x-Saturday, Feb. 6: Game 7

x-Sunday, Feb. 7: Game 7

x-Monday, Feb. 8: Game 7

x-Tuesday, Feb. 9: Game 7

x-Wednesday, Feb. 10: Game 7

x-Thursday, Feb. 11: Game 7

x-Friday, Feb. 12: Game 7

x-Saturday, Feb. 13: Game 7

x-Sunday, Feb. 14: Game 7

x-Monday, Feb. 15: Game 7

x-Tuesday, Feb. 16: Game 7

x-Wednesday, Feb. 17: Game 7

x-Thursday, Feb. 18: Game 7

x-Friday, Feb. 19: Game 7

x-Saturday, Feb. 20: Game 7

x-Sunday, Feb. 21: Game 7

x-Monday, Feb. 22: Game 7

x-Tuesday, Feb. 23: Game 7

x-Wednesday, Feb. 24: Game 7

x-Thursday, Feb. 25: Game 7

x-Friday, Feb. 26: Game 7

x-Saturday, Feb. 27: Game 7

x-Sunday, Feb. 28: Game 7

x-Monday, Feb. 29: Game 7

x-Tuesday, Feb. 30: Game 7

x-Wednesday, Mar. 1: Game 7

x-Thursday, Mar. 2: Game 7

x-Friday, Mar. 3: Game 7

x-Saturday, Mar. 4: Game 7

x-Sunday, Mar. 5: Game 7

x-Monday, Mar. 6: Game 7

x-Tuesday, Mar. 7: Game 7

x-Wednesday, Mar. 8: Game 7

x-Thursday, Mar. 9: Game 7

x-Friday, Mar. 10: Game 7

x-Saturday, Mar. 11: Game 7

x-Sunday, Mar. 12: Game 7



## SPORTS



**Total control**  
Islanders up 3-0 on Capitals  
after OT win » **NHL, Page 23**

**NBA PLAYOFFS: 10 THINGS TO KNOW**

# CHASING HISTORY

Leonard's pursuit of unprecedented 3rd Finals MVP leads postseason storylines

By **TIM REYNOLDS**  
Associated Press

**1** If Kawhi Leonard wins an NBA Finals MVP award with the Los Angeles Clippers this season, he'd do something that nobody has ever done — three finals MVPs with three different teams.

Leonard was finals MVP for San Antonio in 2014 and for Toronto last year. Besides Leonard, only LeBron James (with Miami in 2012 and 2013, then Cleveland in 2016) and Kareem Abdul-Jabbar (with Milwaukee in 1971 and the Los Angeles Lakers in 1985) have won finals MVPs with two different franchises.

If the Lakers or Clippers win the title, it'll be another rarity. If the Lakers win, James

and Danny Green (San Antonio, Toronto) would have championships with three different teams; if the Clippers win, Leonard would be on that list.

The only players in NBA history to win titles with three different teams, to this point, are John Salley and Robert Horry.

**2** **Sharing the wealth:** The NBA playoff pool is deeper than ever this season.

Playoff teams will split a record \$23,287,266, a figure up about \$1.6 million from last year.

And the Milwaukee Bucks stand to grab the biggest share of a pool ever, if they win the NBA title. The Bucks would split \$6,827,848 if they won the NBA championship, based on the formula worked out by the NBA.

Milwaukee already secured \$1,606,897 from the pool by having the best record in the NBA, the best record in the Eastern Conference and making the first round. The top six teams in each conference get a bonus for their finish in the regular season.

From there, the breakdown is this:

- First-round qualifiers make \$347,545.
- Conference semifinalists get another \$413,534.
- Conference finalists get another \$683,363.

The biggest slices, of course, go to the teams that make the NBA Finals. The losing team receives another \$2,732,699, while the NBA champions get another \$4,124,054.

For winning the NBA title last season,

**SEE PURSUIT ON PAGE 22**

Above: Kawhi Leonard joined the Los Angeles Clippers in the offseason after a one-year championship stint in Toronto where he was named Finals MVP for a second time. If he can add a third this season — Leonard won his first with San Antonio in 2014 — he will become the first player to do so with three franchises.

KEVIN C. COX / AP

**Elliott makes it three in a row on road** » Auto Racing, Page 19

